



Anti-Communist mob seizes deputy premier

Government HQ stormed in Romania

By Christopher Walker and Tim Judah, Bucharest

Anti-Communist mobs stormed into the Romanian provisional Government's heavily guarded headquarters yesterday, briefly seizing the Deputy Prime Minister and chanting cries in favour of a "second revolution".

Armed troops stood by helplessly and unwilling to react. Some of the soldiers were weeping in despair at their dilemma.

The violence was the worst seen since the December revolution which overthrew the communist dictatorship of Nicolae Ceausescu, and put the future of the provisional government in jeopardy. It came less than 48 hours after the interim President, Mr Ion Iliescu, a former senior Communist, issued a desperate appeal for calm after narrowly averting a mutiny by sacking his defence minister.

By late afternoon a crowd of

at least 250 angry demonstrators had occupied the imposing Stalin-Gothic foreign ministry building on Victory Square which houses the offices of the ruling National Salvation Front. Most of its windows had been smashed and anti-Communist slogans daubed on the walls.

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At one point the mob hurled stones and bottles at the building, parts of which were later ransacked and books burned.

During remarkable scenes of anarchy which are certain to have wide repercussions throughout the country, the occupiers jostled a senior member of the Front, Mr Gulu Voican, the bearded Deputy Prime Minister, and called on him to stand down. The official look terrified for his life as he was pushed and shoved by the screaming mob, but he was later rescued and put under special guard by soldiers.

Elsewhere in the palatial building the demonstrators went on the rampage through offices while soldiers looked on powerless to stop them. At one stage, they discovered books written by Ceausescu and a flag of the Romanian Communist Party, which helped fuel their conviction that the Front is tainted by connections with the dictatorship.

Romanian television began showing occasional live footage of the takeover with mobs screaming "Jos Iliescu" ("down with Iliescu") while soldiers lined the walls under glittering chandeliers and demonstrators made "V" for victory signs at the cameras. The accompanying commentary was highly critical of the protesters, and by nightfall military reinforcements had been rushed to the area and supporters of the Front had begun gathering outside, calling the occupiers "terrorists".

The attack, led by youths waving large Romanian flags, came during a mass anti-government demonstration in front of the building, which was ringed by some 400 troops and guarded by paratroopers and Soviet-built armoured personnel carriers. One of the infantry men told us as he kept his AK47 assault rifle firmly behind his back: "I am

not going to shoot at these people. These are the people."

The mood suddenly turned ugly as rumours spread through the crowd that Mr Voican had been seen inside the building carrying a sub-machine gun. Shouting "reign" and brandishing sticks, the crowd began to smash down the front door and kick in windows.

There was a temporary lull after the initial attack on the building when at least four people, including a woman, succeeded in climbing inside - some with blood streaming from cuts from broken glass. But the crowd grew restive after reports circulated that the invaders had been beaten by soldiers inside.

Soon after 5pm, two men appeared on the imposing second storey balcony waving Romanian flags and one was seen to be beaten by the soldiers. Then came what sounded like a rifle shot and the crowd surged into the building, which by then was covered in slogans demanding the resignation of Mr Iliescu and the Prime Minister, Mr Petre Roman, another ex-Communist Party member.

Although some in the crowd appealed against the violence they were over-ruled by the hard core of demonstrators, some of whom had taken part in the street battles which led to Ceausescu's downfall. A symbolic sign was written on cardboard and tucked among the broken shards of glass on the window of a ground floor room. "The Ultimate Solution is another revolution", it stated.

As the mob stormed the building, they shouted "assassinate" "assassinate" at the tops of their voices. The emotion was evidence of the mounting concern at every level of society that Romania's revolution has been taken over by leaders who are Communists compromised by long years of association with Ceausescu.

Meanwhile, the new Romanian Defense Minister, General Victor Stanculescu, promised yesterday to democratize the army and remove various military officials, as demanded by officers who forced out his predecessor. General Stanculescu, in a televised interview, said he agreed with the views of officers whose four days of demonstrations led General Nicolae Militaru to resign on Friday.



Demonstrators climbing on to the roof of the Government's headquarters in Bucharest

Ruling party set to win in Japanese election

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

A year of political chaos in Japan that brought down two prime ministers looks like ending today, with early results from Japan's general elections yesterday appearing to guarantee the ruling Liberal Democratic Party a grudging mandate to continue its 35-year reign.

Of the 512 Lower House seats, the party had by late last night taken 240 of the 431 so far announced and was expected to obtain about 30 of the remaining 81 in Tokyo and its suburbs, where counting was beginning this morning.

Japan Broadcasting Corporation, the state-run television network, and Kyodo, Japan's domestic news agency, both predicted the Liberal Demo-

cratic Party would be returned with a small majority.

Among those re-elected, kindling his hopes of a return to centre-stage, was Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, aged 71, the former Prime Minister. He headed a list of those "Grand Old Men" of Japanese politics who became entangled in the

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Recruit scandal last year but who were able to join their constituency supporters in cries of "Banzai" (victory) last night.

The Liberal Democrats' narrow victory will allow the party to claim that it has been forgiven for the entanglement of its leaders with the Recruit

affair, which touched almost all of its elite.

But the party's good fortune owes as much to the innate conservatism of Japanese voters, their lack of surprise at their politicians' venality, and the absence of a credible opposition alternative.

The business world went to bed with an easier mind after weeks of anguish. Mr Eishiro Saito, chairman of the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations, said: "I can breathe a little easier now that political stability is secured, at least for the time being."

Although its majority has been cut, the Liberal Democrats' success will probably extend the political life of Mr Toshiki Kaifu, the caretaker Prime Minister.

India orders Airbus grounded

From Coomi Kapoor, Delhi

The Indian Government has ordered the grounding of Airbus A320 aircraft after the Bangalore crash which killed at least 90 last week.

Indian Airlines is also expected to announce today that it will not take delivery of the balance of the current order, a further four A320s, or take up an option on a further 12 aircraft. The seven-day

grounding, pending investigations, follows criticism within India that the highly sophisticated aircraft with computer-controlled flight systems is unsuitable for the sub-continent.

British Airways, which has seven of the aircraft and a company representative in Bangalore, has not taken its machines out of service. Even

after the air crash in southern India on Wednesday snags have plagued the A320s, used by the country's domestic carrier, Indian Airlines. On Thursday an A320 bound for Madras from Hyderabad had a lucky escape at Hyderabad airport when an engine failed. In at least three other cases problems with the A320 were reported by the weekend.

US must keep troops in Germany says Thatcher

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Mrs Thatcher yesterday insisted that American troops must continue to be stationed in a unified Germany which must remain part of Nato.

In a further indication of her reservations about the pace of German reunification she declared too that it would be quite reasonable for some Soviet troops to remain in East Germany "at least for a transitional period" to meet the concerns of the Soviet Union.

Significantly, Mrs Thatcher chose an address to the British Board of Deputies, leaders of Britain's 300,000 Jewish community, to spell out her attitude towards German unification.

The Prime Minister is prepared to voice the thoughts others prefer to whisper behind the scenes, and to slow down what she regards as the relentless drive led by Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor and Hans-Dietrich Genscher, his Foreign Minister, to sweep East Germany into reunification.

Yesterday she trod a careful line. After declaring before Christmas that German reunification was "not on the agenda", and suggesting that the process could take 15 to 20 years, Mrs Thatcher had moved a long way in saying yesterday: "There is no doubt that this coming together of the two parts of Germany is going to happen".

But she added "It is understandable that, for some, bitter memories of the past should colour their view of the present and future". And she insisted that German unification must take into account "not only the feelings of the two German states but the sensitivities and interests of others in Europe as well".

Unification, she said, had to respect existing treaties and agreements, including the commitments of the Helsinki Final Act which recognizes existing borders in Europe.

And in a clear warning that there should be no talk of

Exodus warning.....10

return to 1937 boundaries, which included parts of Poland, she emphasised the word existing.

Mrs Thatcher also warned that the rights of the four powers in Germany had to be considered.

The essential, she insisted, was that the unification of Germany should not be allowed to make anyone in Eastern or Western Europe feel less secure.

Mrs Thatcher, who has already been depicted as a bitter enemy in the German Press for spelling out her reservations over what she sees as an unseemly rush towards unification insisted that there were major questions to be asked.

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Fresh move to end Eurotunnel crisis

By John Bell, City Editor

Eurotunnel is to make its second management shake-up inside a week in an effort to end the financial crisis which is crippling the group.

The group will announce today that a senior executive from Bechtel, the US construction group, is to be appointed to the board. He will take over responsibility for the management of the construction project.

His appointment will almost certainly involve the departure of Dr Tony Ridley, the Eurotunnel director who only last week was put in charge of the construction project after a wide-ranging

management re-shuffle. The moves are designed to put an end to the damaging row between Eurotunnel and Transmanche-Link, the 10-

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strong consortium which is building the tunnel.

Eurotunnel will also make a statement to the London Stock Exchange and the Paris Bourse to prevent panic selling of shares after a weekend warning by the chairman, M

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INSIDE

Connecting with the past

• The sweeping aside of the Iron Curtain has given thousands of families, torn apart by cold war and revolution, the chance to seek relatives missing for years, even decades. Much of the tracing is done by the Red Cross, which in peace, as in war, has made accomplishing the near-impossible a daily routine. See page 13

A line to the future

• The rapidly changing and growing world of mobile communications is examined in a three-page special report, beginning on page 28

Portfolio PLATINUM

• There was one winner of the weekly Portfolio Platinum prize of £4,000 (see page 3). Today's chance to win £2,000 is on page 27

Birt replies

John Birt, BBC deputy director-general, rebuts Woodrow Wyatt's allegations of left-wing bias on Radio 4's *Today* and says the BBC judges its staff on skill and performance without going into their political beliefs. Page 14

Macari puzzle

Lou Macari was understood to have resigned as manager of West Ham United following a meeting of the club's directors after yesterday's League match at Swindon. Page 40

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Prosecution service to be accused in Commons

By Jamie Dettmer

The Crown Prosecution Service will be accused this week by defence lawyers in a Commons select committee of incompetence, inefficiency and of causing unnecessary delays in the courts.

Representatives from the Law Society and the Criminal Bar Association will tell MPs on the home affairs committee that CPS staff are preparing cases badly and frequently failing to deliver files on time for trials.

The CPS, formed three

years ago to take over police prosecution powers, has been criticized by magistrates, justices' clerks and the probation service. Last week the Commons public accounts committee criticized it for wasting taxpayers' money and for failing to improve significantly on conviction rates achieved by the police.

The committee has heard evidence from police representatives which was highly critical of the CPS.

Full report, page 6

'Kilroy' producer may face jail in custody battle

By David Sapped



Dr Morgan: Mother freed on order of President Bush

The producer of a BBC television talk show is facing possible imprisonment unless she discloses today the whereabouts in Britain of an eight-year-old girl at the centre of America's most celebrated and sordid child custody case.

President Bush signed a special Bill last autumn to enable the child's mother, Dr Elizabeth Morgan, to be released from prison after she had spent two years behind bars for refusing to accede to a court order instructing her to disclose the whereabouts of her daughter, Hilary.

Now, Ms Di Burgess, producer of the *Kilroy* programme, has been served with a "search and locate" order by the girl's father, Dr Eric Foretich, because he believes she knows where the girl is. He

obtained the order from the High Court on Friday and, if Ms Burgess refuses today to disclose what she knows, she may face imprisonment until she does.

The child is now in Britain but Dr Morgan has persistently refused to give any details of where her daughter is living because she alleges Dr Foretich, her ex-husband, abused the youngster.

He absolutely denies the charges and describes his former wife as insane and as an example of "unadulterated evil", and has mounted a worldwide search for his daughter, coming to Britain for the second time last week.

Yesterday Ms Burgess, aged 40, declined to make any comment. However, Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, the former MP and host of the BBC talk show, said: "Di is facing being sent to prison because

Dr Foretich believes she knows where this poor child is."

"Dr Foretich was on my show before Christmas when we were discussing child custody battles. In the course of researching the show, my producer attempted to locate the child. She is a good, tenacious journalist and I guess she did not leave it there," he said.

"I do not know whether she actually located Hilary. I do know that the court order has put her in a a dreadful position. She is not only a journalist who does not want to reveal her sources, but she is also a mother herself with natural instincts to protect a child who has already been through so much."

Ms Burgess was last night understood to be reviewing the situation with her own and BBC lawyers.

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Nuclear power unit operators face huge leukaemia claims

By Thomson Prentice and Kerry Gill

Operators of some of Britain's nuclear power stations face huge compensation claims from local families struck by leukaemia.

The families' belief that radiation from the stations is a factor in the development of the disease was supported by experts last week.

Researchers found links between men working at the Sellafield plant in Cumbria and the onset of leukaemia in some of their children.

Yesterday British Nuclear Fuels, operator of Sellafield, was urged by lawyers to set up a compensation fund for the children. The lawyers are pursuing claims on behalf of 35 Sellafield workers.

Leading trade unions representing nuclear industry workers and their families are also calling for compensation.

"We now have the clearest possible evidence that it is radiation from the Sellafield plant that is causing these excess leukaemias in children," Mr Martyn Day, a lawyer, said.

"We know from dealing with the cases in which we are instructed how dreadful the ordeal is of each family which has a child with these diseases."

"In addition to the misery of seeing a beloved child suffer, and knowing that he or she may die, most families also suffer from financial hardship and anxiety because

of the cost of dealing with the illness and the loss of earnings of the breadwinner. "It is clear from BNF's reaction to the expert report that they are taking it very seriously."

The company is taking legal advice but believes that claims are unlikely to succeed without medical evidence.

Last week a Medical Research Council team reported that one in five of children with leukaemia living near Sellafield had fathers who worked at the station.

Yesterday a student aged 19, who contracted a rare form of the condition 10 years ago while living near the Dounreay nuclear site in Caithness, said she would sue the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority for dam-

ages. Miss Sharon Coghill, who grew up in Murkle, a village four miles from Dounreay, believes that radiation could be responsible for her illness and the high incidence of leukaemia in the area.

Miss Coghill, a student in Aberdeen, has been granted legal aid in a case which could set a precedent for other families. Her action is the first of its kind to be taken against the Dounreay operators.

She said she wanted to force them to concede that the plant was in some way responsible for the disease. Her father did not work at the plant.

The Atomic Energy Authority said: "The radiation discharges from the plant compared with natural sources are so small that it is extremely unlikely that they can be associated with any health effects."

Mr John McFall, Labour MP for Dumbarton, wants the Government to disclose the number of leukaemia cases in and around the nuclear submarine base at Faslane on the Clyde.

Representatives of British ex-servicemen who witnessed nuclear test explosions in the Pacific and Australia in the 1950s say at least 700 of the men's children have died or been affected by illnesses which could be related to radioactive fallout.



Miss Coghill: Her case could set precedent for families.

Security commission lays wreath at Lockerbie



Members of the US Commission on Aviation Security and Terrorism on their way to lay a wreath in Lockerbie yesterday.

Members of President Bush's Commission on Aviation Security and Terrorism laid a wreath yesterday for the victims of the Lockerbie air disaster.

The seven-member commission stood bare-headed in windswept Dryfedale cemetery on the outskirts of the border town.

Mrs Ann McLaughlin, the chairman, a former Secretary of Labour, laid a wreath with the message: "With deepest sympathy from members of the US Congressional Commission."

She placed it next to a lacrosse stick left by a visiting team from Syracuse University, which lost a number of students in the terrorist bombing on December 21, 1988, in which 270 people were killed.

Earlier, the party toured the areas around Lockerbie where parts of Flight 103 crashed. They visited the room of remembrance in the graveyard of Tundergarth Parish Church.

The Rev Cameron Gibson told them the building had been a former derelict sessionhouse. It has a book of remembrance where visitors and relatives can sit and pay their respects. Mr Gibson said: "They thought it was a very suitable memorial."

The commission was set up by President Bush last August to examine US policy regarding the threat of terrorism in civil aviation. It will put forward recommendations aimed at reducing the risk of terrorism in commercial aircraft in a report to the President in May.

The commissioners met Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport, during their four-day stay in Britain.

MP blames attack on rally hecklers

By Robin Young

Sir Bernard Braine, Father of the Commons, described yesterday how he beat off two "cowardly" young attackers in central London on Saturday night.

Sir Bernard, aged 75, suffered cuts and bruises in sending his assailants fleeing after being punched and kicked to the ground. "When the enemy behaves in such a cowardly way, my spirits soar," he said.

Sir Bernard, MP for Castle Point, Essex, said he believed his assailants were pro-abortionists who heckled him during a speech at a pro-life rally at the

Royal Albert Hall earlier in the evening. "I left by the rear of the hall into Exhibition Road. I heard some steps behind me and then two young thugs grabbed me by the neck, thumped me on the back, flailed their arms at me, kicked my legs savagely and shoved me forward into a lamp-post or bin. The only way to save myself from being slammed into it was to throw myself forward on my face."

"They were screaming at me. Then, I managed to get myself up. They seemed to stagger back and I lashed out at one of them. And off they ran. They were just two rotten cowards," Sir Bernard, who

served in the war with the North Staffordshire Regiment in the Second World War, said.

Earlier, demonstrators disrupted the meeting by throwing a stink bomb and bags of flour on to the stage.

The Abortion Law Reform Association said last night: "Sir Bernard may be wrong about the identity of his attackers. But we in the pro-choice movement believe we have the voice of reason on our side. We don't regard assault as an acceptable way of conducting an argument. In fact, we are concerned about the fanatical behaviour of some of our opponents."

NEWS ROUNDUP

Todd fights union election demand

Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, will withstand demands tomorrow from his national executive committee to provide details of his investigation into ballot rigging, which could affect Labour's chances in the next general election (Tim Jones writes).

Mr Todd said yesterday he would withhold details of his investigation until the result of the new ballot is known next month, in spite of demands from some moderate members.

The new poll could cost the financially stretched union up to £500,000. Mr Todd has promised that if culprits are identified they will be either expelled or dismissed, depending on whether they are employees or members.

Sources close to the leadership said they "did not believe" a suggestion that a Manchester-based solicitor, appointed by Mr Todd to supervise the ballot, was guilty of rigging.

Press complaints rise

Only three national newspapers — *The Times*, the *Financial Times* and the *Daily Mirror* — emerged from 1989 without having a complaint by the public upheld by the Press Council (Richard Evans writes). Growing criticism of newspapers was reflected in the record 1,484 complaints.

The worst culprits among daily titles in terms of upheld complaints were *The Star* (five, and one upheld in part), *The Daily Telegraph* and *Today* (three each), *The Independent*, *Daily Mail*, *The Sun* (two each), and *The Guardian* (one). The *Daily Express* had one complaint upheld in part.

Father's assault arrest

Mr Jeff Harris, aged 24, whose baby daughter was kidnapped for 16 days earlier this year, was arrested by police yesterday after an alleged assault on the child's mother, Miss Dawn Griffiths, aged 20 (Stephen Warr writes). He was arrested at the couple's home in Gypsy Hill, south London, taken to Streatham police station and later released on police bail until April 19. His daughter, Alexandra, was taken from St Thomas's Hospital last month when she was 36 hours old.

Law for flat-dwellers

The Law Commission has drafted a law to give flat leaseholders the right to full ownership of their properties which could be included in the programme for the next session of Parliament (Robin Young writes). The proposal is for a system of "commonhold" in which leaseholders would fully own their individual flats but share responsibility with other owners for common parts of the building, such as the roof, hallways, staircases and external walls.

Mother is charged

The mother of the four children found dead in their beds has been charged with their murder. Mrs Oitai Ngai, aged 32, a Hong Kong Chinese, will appear before Billericay magistrates today charged with killing Alex, aged five, Edmund, three, Jennifer, 23 months, and Samuel, four months. The bodies were found by the father, Mr Kam Tong Ngai, 35, when he returned to the family's house in Long Riding, Basildon, Essex, from his job early on Saturday.

All-out 999 strike threat faces union

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Ambulance union leaders are today expected to face the most severe challenge to their handling of the six-month dispute when crews in Merseyside are likely to vote for all-out strike action.

The decision by more than 400 ambulance men and women to abandon even emergency services would be a severe embarrassment to the unions' leaders who have pledged all along that the 999 calls will be handled.

As local union leaders in Liverpool waited for the count, the High Court, in a rare Sunday judgement, granted an injunction to South Glamorgan Health Authority preventing ambulance staffs in their area from starting up their own service from today.

Mr James Watt, a solicitor for the Welsh Office, which applied for the injunction on behalf of the health authority, said it was granted until

tomorrow when both parties could put their case to the court.

Union leaders were last night relaxed about the injunction but viewed with more seriousness the threat by the Merseyside crews to break ranks by threatening an all-out indefinite strike.

Mr Roger Poole, the chief union negotiator, has endorsed plans for crews to disregard instructions from control officers and run the service themselves, but has always insisted the 999 function must be maintained.

Yesterday Mr Ray Clayton, the National Union of Public Employees branch secretary on Merseyside, said: "We are confident of a result overwhelmingly in favour of a strike."

Yesterday crews in Clwyd decided to adhere to the national line and refuse to co-operate with officers.

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Plastic bullets fired at football riot fans 'to avert massacre'

By Edward Gorman, Irish Affairs Correspondent

Police officers on duty at a football match in Belfast on Saturday would have been "massacred" had they not resorted to plastic bullets to quell violent supporters, the Royal Ulster Constabulary said last night.

Sixty-three people, including 48 police officers, were injured in sustained violence during an Irish Cup tie between Roman Catholic Celtic and Protestant-backed Linfield.

A bomb planted close to the ground, apparently intended to kill police on crowd and security duty, was being dealt with by Army technical officers last night.

According to police, trouble started on the way to the ground when Roman Catholic youths from West Belfast threw stones and bottles at officers in the streets around the Windsor Park ground.

After a delay of 25 minutes, the game got under way but was punctuated by rioting between rival groups of supporters and between supporters and police.

At one point, Donegal Celtic followers in the Spion Kop section subjected police to a sustained 15-minute attack using stones, broken bottles and other debris. Officers responded by charging the crowd with batons before firing a number of plastic bullets.

A police spokesman defended the use of the plastic baton guns, which are normally reserved for street riots. He said it was not realistic to compare

football violence at mainland grounds with that in Belfast which was driven by political and sectarian motives.

The use of plastic bullets reflected a real danger that officers would be killed if they did not take concerted action to protect themselves, the spokesman said.

"The men were most definitely in fear of being completely over-run," he said. "If that had happened, it would have been a massacre. If those fellows in the Spion Kop from West Belfast had got their

mine exploded under an Army Land-Rover just before midnight on Saturday, slightly injuring two soldiers and two civilians.

A bomb in an abandoned car outside an hotel in the west of the city, caused minor damage when it exploded less than 30 minutes later.

Mr Peter Brooke, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, continues discussions today with constitutional party leaders on the way, it is hoped, to eventual inter-party talks.

The meeting, his first since his keynote devolution speech on January 9, will be held with Mr James Molyneux, leader of the Ulster Unionist Party, and Dr Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party. Mr Brooke will meet Mr John Hume, leader of the SDLP, tomorrow.

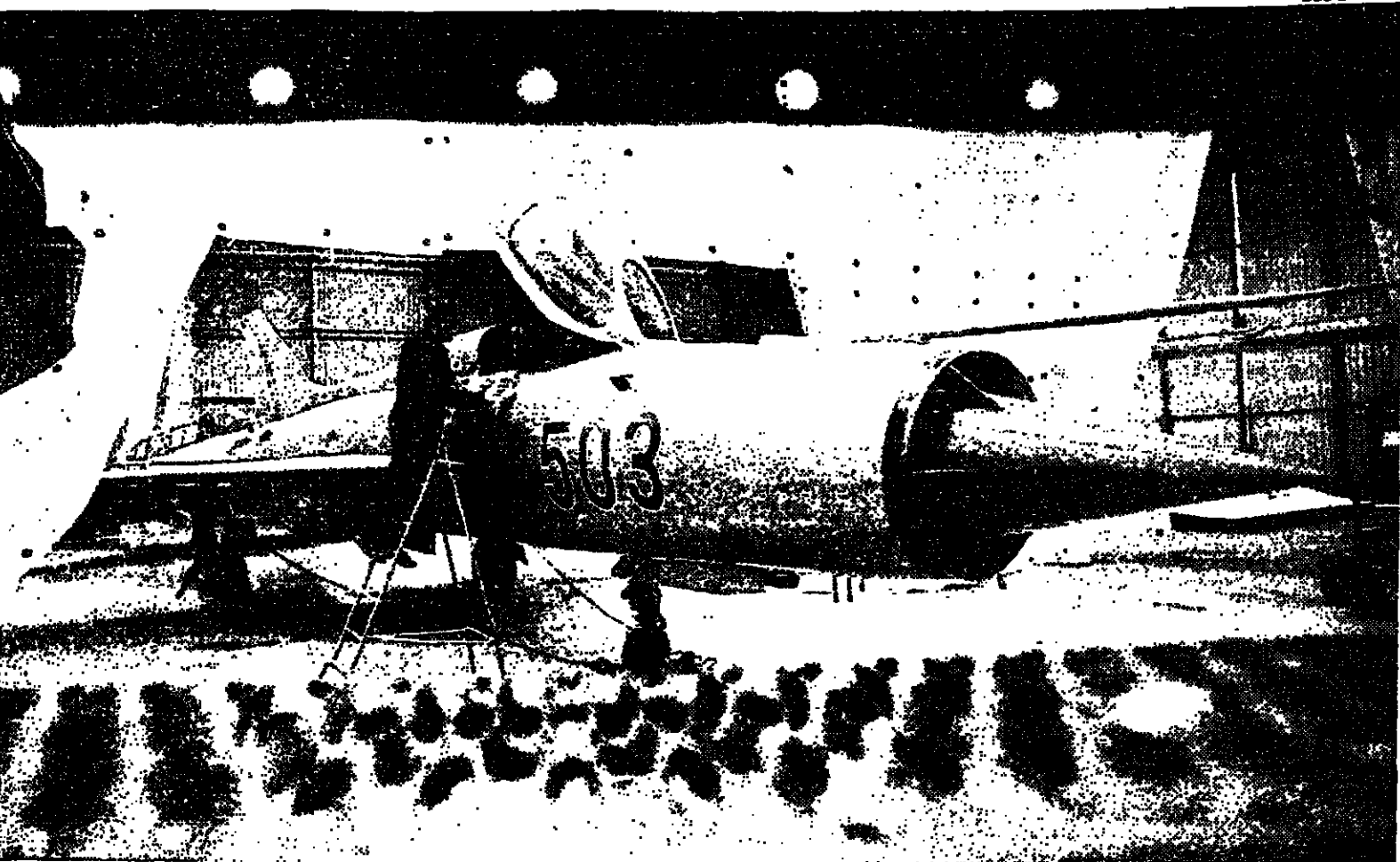
It is thought that today's discussions will centre once again on unionist pre-conditions for talks and their call for a suspension of the Anglo-Irish Conference and the joint secretariat at Maryfield.

Dr Paisley and Mr Molyneux will also want some clarification of the Government's position after some-what ambiguous remarks by Mr Brooke in recent weeks.

Government sources cautioned that substantial progress was not expected and that the meeting would serve primarily as a chance for each side to set out its point of view to see if there had been significant movement since their last meeting in the autumn.

MiG made ready to blaze trail in auction world

BOB GANNON



Mackay in move on white male bias of top lawyers

By Sheila Gunn, Political Reporter

Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, is to announce moves to lessen the domination of the highest rungs of the legal profession by white, middle-class, male barristers.

He is to table amendments to the Courts and Legal Services Bill to ensure that those with experience in promoting equal opportunities will play a role in deciding which lawyers have access to the higher courts.

The representatives are to have a guaranteed place on the independent advisory committee on legal education and conduct, a central plank of Lord Mackay's shake-up of the legal profession.

A spokesman for the Lord Chancellor said the move reflected his determination "to see people from a wider background at the top of the profession".

However, the move is unlikely to placate critics of Lord Mackay's reforms when he faces them this week. The Bill moves into its final stages in the Lords this week, and the Lords' business managers are preparing for revolts on the most contentious proposals.

During the Bill's report

stage in the House of Lords, beginning tomorrow, Lord Mackay will stand firm on the main principles, however. He will resist demands by Lord Ackner, a Law Lord, and the Bar Council that the judiciary should have a majority on the advisory committee.

However, Lord Mackay's spokesman said: "We are preparing an amendment to give judges a more informal role. They would be able to go to the advisory committee on a preliminary basis to put forward ideas. But the main structure of the committee will not be changed."

The Lord Chancellor has also tabled an amendment to reassure peers who complained that plans to transfer cases from the higher to lower courts would overstretch the county courts.

The amendment would also require him to make an annual report to Parliament on the business of the high and county courts.

In addition, Lord Ackner is to table an amendment to require the Lord Chancellor to give reasons if he approves the new advocacy rules. He also plans amendments to boost judicial membership on the new lay-dominated advisory com-

mittee and ensure that lay people who qualify as advocates could never be appointed as senior judges.

● The Labour Party is to seek curbs on judges to prevent them stopping solicitors from moving into the higher courts under the government reforms (Our Legal Correspondent writes).

It is to table an amendment to the Bill to ensure that judges cannot unreasonably exercise a right of veto on the new rules governing the exercise of advocacy rights by solicitors. The amendment will be tabled by the Labour Party when the Bill moves into the Commons.

The amendment would limit the judges' right to block rights of audience other than "on reasonable grounds" and stop them "flying in the face of the new Lord Chancellor's advisory committee," Mr John Fraser, an Opposition legal affairs spokesman, said.

Second, the Labour Party is concerned to secure the right balance between the political control of the Lord Chancellor and the control of the senior judges. The amendment will require the judges, when approving or rejecting the new rules, to act collectively.

Mr Ray Thomas, manager of a company hiring historic aircraft to the film industry, giving a polish to a MiG 21 that is to become the first Soviet jet aircraft in airworthy condition to be offered for auction in the West when handled by Christie's in April.

The fighter can exceed 1,000mph and the type is still in service with many Third World countries.

The company, Aces High, headed by Mr Mike Woodley and based at North Weald, Essex, hopes to sell the MiG at an auction to be conducted by Christie's new aeronautical department on April 28. The fighter, believed to be the only one of its kind to come into Britain, will be offered for more than £100,000 at an auction to be held at the Imperial War Museum, Duxford, near Cambridge. It was built in the Soviet Union in 1964 and imported to Britain last year.

Between 25 and 35 aircraft will be for auction, including the 1929 Gipsy Moth biplane that appeared in *Out of Africa*.
Saleroom, page 6

Race to find tissue match

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Staff at the world's biggest register of bone marrow transplant donors were working overtime yesterday in a race to find a perfect match for a boy who is dying from leukaemia.

The parents of Simon Flavell, aged nine, are both doctors involved in research into the same rare form of the disease from which he suffers.

Although two-thirds of childhood leukaemia can be cured by conventional drug treatment, a marrow transplant is Simon's only hope.

Blood samples from more than 135,000 potential donors are being tissue-typed and compared with his at the Anthony Nolan Research Centre, based at the Royal Free Hospital in Hampstead, north-west London. The char-

ity-funded centre has arranged 260 such operations, and last year helped patients in 15 countries.

However, the search for a suitable donor for Simon is unusually difficult because he is Eurasian.

Simon's mother, Dr Sopassorn Flavell, who is Thai, and father, Dr David Flavell, are hoping that a match will be found among hundreds of Eurasians who have offered to become donors.

The couple, both based in the monoclonal antibody unit at Southampton General Hospital, appealed for a donor last week.

Yesterday, technicians at the centre were tissue-typing samples sent by doctors from around the country. Mr Rich-

ard Holman, laboratory manager at the centre, and about 20 technicians volunteered to work throughout the weekend.

"It is an urgent case and we know that a child's life is at stake," Mr Holman said.

"We can identify a potential donor very quickly through a series of tests and the use of computers. But so far we haven't found a suitable match among the 135,000 names on our register."

"We are still hopeful and we know that the large number of Eurasian donors coming forward will also help patients of a similar group who need a transplant."

Simon's parents are also hoping that friends in Bangkok will help set up a donor hotline there.

Labour adds to ministers' poll tax disquiet

Tory councils on list of high spenders

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The Labour Party is today exploiting the Government's growing difficulties over the community charge by publishing a list of projected poll tax levels around the country and comparing them to the current rates.

Ministers are planning a comprehensive review of the poll tax after this year's local elections, when the lessons of its introduction have been digested.

Alarmed Tory MPs, for whom the tax has become the dominant political topic, are keeping up the pressure for much more generous Treasury contributions to local government finance. They want education spending taken from local authority to central government budgets, to help lessen the impact of the tax before the next general election. But this would require a Prime ministerial U-turn since Mrs Thatcher has publicly rejected the idea.

In the list published today Mr Bryan Gould, Labour's environment spokesman, says that in 18 out of 65 authorities the average local tax bill per adult is due to rise by more than 50 per cent. In 38 of the 64 the average rise would be over 25 per cent.

What has alarmed ministers is that many Conservative

authorities, as well as the traditional high-spending Labour authorities which were the targets of the legislation, are charging far more than the Government predicted.

Ministers say some Conservative authorities are making increases because they face increased costs from county authorities in other hands.

But Mr Gould said yesterday that most of the authorities listed were Conservative-controlled districts in Conservative-controlled counties.

"These figures expose the Government's poll tax for what it is - unfair, unworkable and guaranteed to make many much worse off. The figures also expose the Tories' lie that only people living in Labour local authorities will pay higher poll taxes."

The first column of figures in Labour's list shows the rate bill average as announced by the Secretary of State for the Environment last November.

The second column shows those fixed by authorities, notified to councillors or reported in local papers.

In only one authority, Elmbridge in Surrey, is the average total tax bill per adult going down. In only four councils (Hove, Epsom and Ewell, Runnymede and Croy-

LABOUR'S PROJECTED POLL TAX LEVELS

	Avg rate bill per adult 89/90 £	Est. poll tax 90/91 £	poll tax as % inc on rate per adult		Avg rate bill per adult 89/90 £	Est. poll tax 90/91 £	poll tax as % inc on rate per adult
East Sussex	340	372	9.4	Runnymede	310	330	6.5
Brighton	359	384	7.0	Spelthorne	312	380	21.8
Eastbourne	384	395	2.9	Surrey Heath	335	401	19.7
Hastings	274	383	39.8	Tandridge	318	375	18.0
Hove	312	330	5.7	Waverley	379	411	8.4
Lewes	301	352	16.9	Woking	383	460	20.1
Rother	317	355	12.0				
Wealden	280	349	24.6	Berkshire	296	375	26.7
West Sussex	293	350	19.5	Bracknell	299	402	34.4
Adur	288	310	15.7	Reading	297	450	51.5
Arun	283	308	15.2	Slough	292	374	28.1
Chichester	273	345	25.4	Windsor/M Maidenhead	374	488	30.5
Crawley	290	317	9.3	Wokingham	321	454	41.4
Mid Sussex	251	296	17.9	Lincolnshire	185	347	77.9
Worthing	251	296	17.9	Blackburn	250	387	54.8
Devon	237	336	41.8	Blackpool	184	357	83.2
E Devon	238	327	37.3	Burnley	225	357	48.9
Exeter	183	306	67.2	Fylde	278	377	35.6
N Devon	210	328	56.5	Hyndburn	181	297	64.1
Plymouth	246	338	36.8	Lancaster	224	367	63.8
S Hants	225	327	45.3	Pendle	173	287	65.9
Test Valley	189	312	65.1	Preston	236	407	72.5
Mid Devon	263	314	19.4	Ribble Valley	224	367	63.8
Torbay	106	188	77.3	Rossendale	193	307	58.3
Torridge	210	326	55.2	South Ribbleside	222	357	60.8
West Devon	210	326	55.2	West Lancashire	282	377	33.7
Oxfordshire	381	472	23.9	Wyre	234	367	56.8
Oxford	394	443	12.5				
S Oxfordshire	303	409	35.0	Lancashire boroughs	276	293	6.2
Vale of Whitehorse	256	412	54.9	Croydon			
W Oxfordshire				Metropolitan districts			
Surrey	470	450	-4.3	Birmingham	295	406	37.6
Elmbridge	428	454	6.2	Manchester	356	425	19.4
Epsom/Ewell	355	412	16.1	Newcastle	313	382	21.0
Guildford	346	392	13.3	South Tyneside	242	309	27.6
Mcle Valley	380	460	21.1	Wolverhampton	315	430	36.0
Reigate/Banstead							

don) is the average increase below inflation.

● A Conservative-controlled council, Basingstoke in Hampshire, is to cut its projected poll tax by at least £15 a head, only a few days after announcing that it would be about £334.

Mr Stephen Reid, leader of

Crisis manager on the brink

By Neil Bennett

Brinkmanship is nothing new for Mr Alastair Morton, Eurotunnel's co-chairman, whose biography reads like a textbook on crisis management.

In arenas more used to genteel and covert negotiation, Mr Morton's progress through industry and the City has been marked by a succession of explosive confrontations.

The suggestion that the imminent shake-up at Eurotunnel will limit Mr Morton's role to the project's financing seems to be an admission of the damage his abrasive style has done to relations with Transmanche Link, the project's contractors. Yet, time and again, he has used the same approach with success.

Mr Morton only agreed to take the job at Eurotunnel in February 1987 after weeks of pressure from the Bank of England, which recognized the need for strong management.

The project had just struggled to raise £206 million in a private placing. The main £750 million share offer looked in jeopardy. Without it, the banks would not release the £5 billion loans and the whole project would never leave the ground.

After a victory over pricing agreements with the rail networks, Mr Morton spent months lobbying investors worldwide to ensure the share offer was a success.

Last year, he came to the project's rescue once more when he negotiated a further £1.5 billion fund-raising pro-

gramme, due in the spring, to cope with estimated construction costs, which have soared from £4.8 to £7.2 billion in three years.

The son of a Scottish oil executive, Mr Morton was born in Johannesburg and won a De Beers scholarship to Oxford. After beginning his career in the Anglo American Corporation, under the wing of Mr Harry Oppenheimer, he returned to England in 1967.

He found his way into the Industrial Reorganization Corporation, the Wilson Government's vehicle for revitalizing Britain's industries. Mr Morton worked under Lord Kearton with Sir Christopher Hogg, head of Courtaulds, as they wrestled with the problem of Britain's declining manufacturing base.

From the IRC he joined the Drayton group of investment trusts and began a campaign

of well-publicized battles with Sir Philip Shelbourne in a series of City firms.

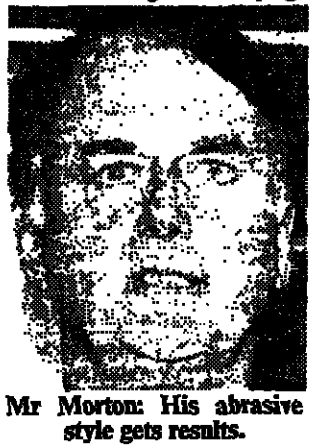
Those culminated at British National Oil Corporation, where Mr Morton stood firm against the Government's wish to break the group in two. When it brought in Sir Philip to engineer the break-up, Mr Morton resigned.

Then, in 1982, the Bank of England drafted him in to save the ailing Guinness Peat financial services group. While he transformed the company from near liquidation to healthy profitability, Mr Morton once again propelled himself into a public feud, with Lord Kinnaird, the founder.

In 1987 came the notorious bid from Equicorp, the now defunct New Zealand financial group. Mr Morton's irritation on hearing the news boiled over and he unforgotten accused it of being "a demented puppy chewing your trousers leg when you are trying to serve a customer". But Equicorp won the day.

Eurotunnel has challenged even Mr Morton's battle-hardened talents. The row with Transmanche overshadowed last week's news that the contractors had completed 50 km of tunnel, a third of the total. Without Morton's tireless stand, the company might not have finished a single metre.

The next 100 kilometres promise an even more thrilling ride for the project's investors and banker.



Mr Morton: His abrasive style gets results.

All-party attack from shires as capping looms

By Ray Clancy

An all-party attack on the poll tax came yesterday from the Conservative heartland of Oxfordshire. The critics said that the Government had set impossible budget levels that forced local authorities to impose an unacceptably high community charge.

Oxfordshire County Council is a hung authority, with 33 Conservative members, 23 Labour, 13 Liberal Democrats and one Independent. Councillors from all parties said that they were worried that it would be capped.

Four of the five Oxfordshire district councils have been told how much poll tax they must collect to pay for county council services. All are well over £100 above government estimates.

When amounts for district and

parish services are added, people in Oxfordshire will be paying about £200 more than the Government-estimated average of £278, as well as contributing to the national safety net system whereby there is a redistribution of funds based on the old rating levels.

In neighbouring Buckinghamshire, final poll tax figures have yet to be fixed, but the county council and five district councils - Aylesbury Vale, Chiltern, Milton Keynes, South Buckinghamshire and Wycombe - have indicated that the charge will be more than £400, exceeding government estimates of £242 to £315.

The councils, in a joint statement, said: "The Government's calculations are based on a broad Whitehall formula which does not take full account of the individual situation in each local authority."

They singled out education as an example of how the Government had miscalculated spending levels.

"Some indication of the unreality of the Government's thinking can be gained from the fact that it has agreed a pay increase for teachers averaging 7.5 per cent. Yet it used a figure of 3.8 per cent when calculating poll tax estimates," they said.

Sir Jack Layden, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said capping would "throw carefully prepared budgets into total confusion with dire effects on services".

The highest poll tax in Oxfordshire will be in Oxford, where the estimate is £490, which includes £472 for the county council and compares with average rates last year of £332 and a government estimate of poll tax of

£269. Of the £490 charge, £75 would go to the national safety net system.

Oxfordshire County Council last week set its budget at £291 million, £39 million more than the Government thinks it should spend. An all-party resolution was passed to ask the Government for reassessment.

Mr Tom Richardson, leader of the Labour group, said: "The whole poll tax system is emerging as a bureaucratic mess." He said capping could result in £40 million cuts in services.

Mrs Sheila Terry, leader of the Liberal Democrats, called on the Government to reconsider plans to cap councils setting high poll taxes.

Mr David Walden, leader of the Conservatives, said they recommended a smaller budget of £270 million, but even that exceeded the £252 million government assessment.

Coal tip safety work starts

By Libby Jukes

Memories of the Aberfan disaster stirred among villagers in Cilfynydd, near Pontypridd, at the weekend as Mid Glamorgan Council said it was carrying out emergency work on a coal tip covering several acres of the mountain-side above.

Heavy drilling equipment was brought in yesterday to relieve water pressure at the base of the heap of shale and coal spoil, caused by a build-up after six weeks of heavy rain. If there is more pro-

longed rain before pumping is complete, villagers fear that they may have to evacuate.

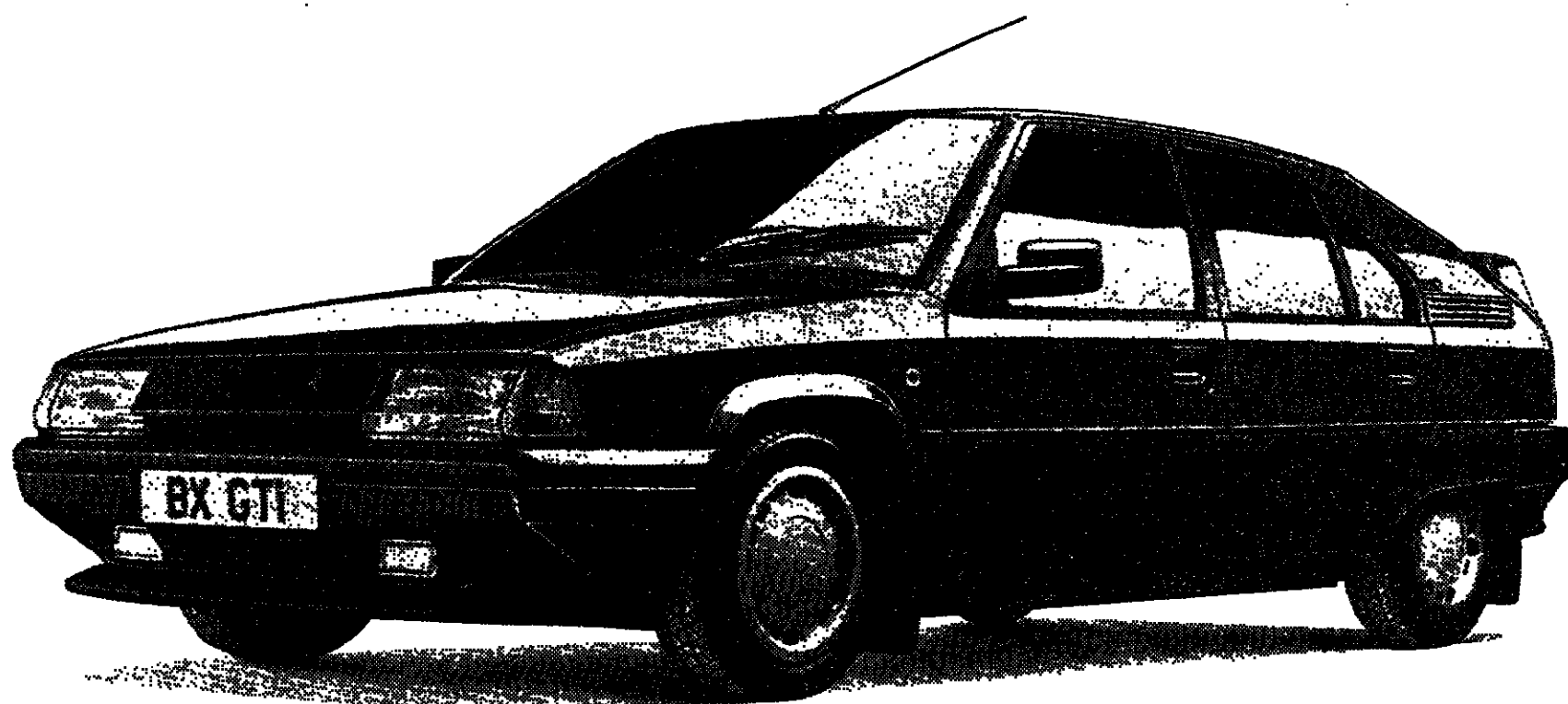
Land reclamation experts have been monitoring the site for the past six months. An interim report showed that some slag had shifted four inches down the tip towards houses over the past eight days. The council hopes the remedial measures will make the tip safe while investigations continue to assess the rate of further movement.

The council said there was no immediate danger of the

tip collapsing, although four extra policemen have been stationed in the village and a list of its 2,500 residents is being prepared in case evacuation is necessary.

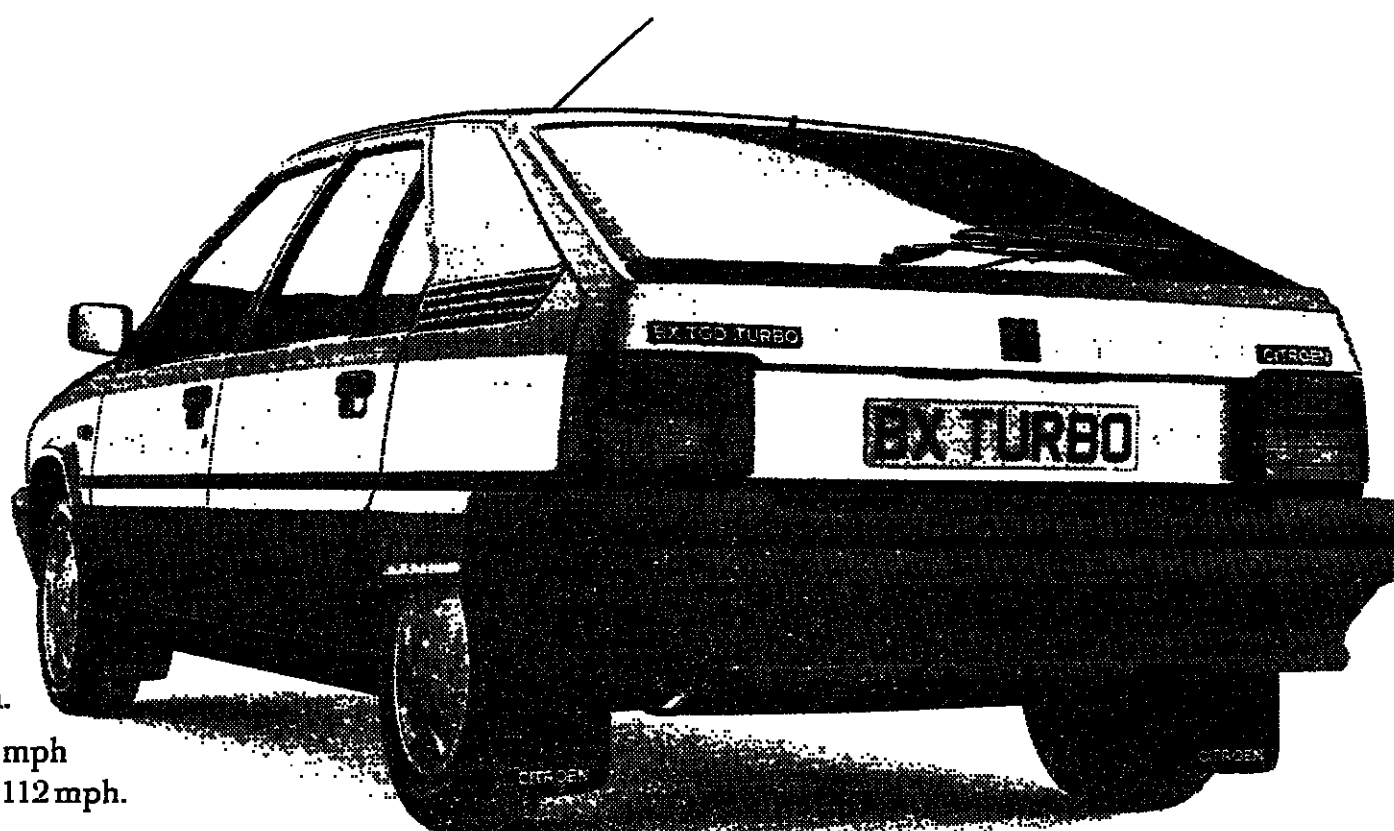
Mr Idris Jones, the Mayor of Pontypridd and one of the 1,000 villagers who live in four streets backing on to the tip, said that only its complete removal would allay fears of a second Aberfan. The 1966 disaster, which happened five miles away claimed 144 lives, including those of 116 children.

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Army to review link between cold war end and recruiting

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The Army, which will be faced by a shortage of 5,000 men by April, is to investigate whether the ending of the Cold War has encouraged soldiers to leave, sources said yesterday.

Quarterly figures, to be announced later this month, will show that by December 31, 1989, there was a shortfall of 4,874 trained personnel — 437 officers and 4,437 other ranks.

If the present net outflow of 200 a month continues, the shortage could amount to 5,000 to 5,500 by April.

Although the rate of premature retirement has fallen after a number of new initiatives, Army chiefs are worried that speculation over the future of Britain's armed forces is influencing soldiers to opt for civilian jobs.

Surveys carried out each month by the Army Personnel Research Establishment at Farnborough, Hampshire, to check on soldiers' attitudes to service life will, for the first time, focus on whether the changes in the Eastern bloc are encouraging men to leave.

Army chiefs are concerned about the continuing drop in manpower levels. In some

specialist areas, such as signals, there is a 7 per cent shortfall.

While recruiting remains steady, due to an expensive advertising campaign, retaining officers and men is a problem, in particular, recruits who give up after a taste of Army life. However, recent changes in the training regimens have produced results.

Last year, training depots throughout the country were ordered to adopt more understanding regimens for recruits after a spate of bullying incidents in the past two years.

One source said yesterday: "In the old days we tried to turn a young civilian into a soldier on the first day. Today we realize that is too rude a shock. Young people are not as robust as they used to be, so we make the adjustment easier."

Training has been extended from 10 weeks to 12 and recruits are handled more sympathetically. More time goes on explaining army methods.

The result is that 25 per cent more recruits are completing their training. In the tougher atmosphere of The Parachute

Regiment training depot at Aldershot, it is claimed that the different approach has meant that up to 60 per cent more recruits are completing the course.

Other changes include:

● An end to the infamous "bed blocks" ritual, in which recruits had to fold their sheets and blankets in a certain way and place them neatly in a bundle on the bed.

● Recruits who own cars and motorcycles may now drive them in and out of the barracks. Previously they were barred.

● Recruits are also allowed home more often during training than in the past.

"By being more understanding in the first two weeks of a recruit's life in the Army, we find we can cut down on wastage," a source said.

The present requirement for a fully trained British field army is just over 140,000. That excludes the 16,000 who are always in the course of training and the 8,000 Gurkhas. However, with the net outflow of officers and men standing at 3.4 per cent, the total trained strength is now only about 135,000.

Villagers help fight to save a vanishing beach



The beach at Cushendun, Co Antrim, where for half a century farmers, invoking their "traditional rights", had removed sand and gravel to make concrete blocks for building their sheep pens and cow sheds. The result was the loss of the beach at a rate of 3ft a year (Libby Jukes writes). Now

the National Trust and the villagers have agreed on a unusual scheme to save the beach.

The trust, owner of the beach and much of the village, has decided fund a £2,000 a year scheme to provide an indefinite supply of building sand. It will be stored in a depot near the beach

and available free. "This is a great victory for the people of Cushendun," Miss Diane Harrow, for the trust, said. "By allowing the freezing of their claimed traditional rights and using the sand and gravel the trust is providing, they are taking the most effective steps to save their beach."

Dr William Carter, an erosion specialist, had warned a public meeting in the church hall last week that the road and cottages near by were at risk. A fence around the hurling field had been moved back three times in the past five years as the ground disappeared beneath it, he said.

Family structures

First-born likely to take orthodox view

From Pearce Wright, Science Editor, New Orleans

In families with several children, the first-born is likely to have orthodox views while younger members are more receptive to radical ideas, according to a two-decade study of 2,780 people.

Professor Frank Sulloway, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston, concluded that people's reaction to Darwin's theories on evolution or to Einstein's theory of relativity was determined by their chronological relationship to siblings.

However, his idea was tested yesterday when oppos

A new way of designing tailor-made artificial replacements for any joint in the body was demonstrated yesterday to the association. One of its inventors, Professor Dean Taylor, of Cornell University, New York, said that data from a scan of a patient's joint is fed into a computer, which displays the joint in three dimensions. A surgeon then designs on the computer screen a tailor-made implant, and a machine cuts a metal casting.

ing views from two experts on theories of modern human origin were presented to the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr Christopher Stringer, from the Natural History Museum in London, uses genetics to suggest that modern man spread out of Africa 150,000 to 200,000 years ago. He also said racial differences in appearance only developed about 20,000 years ago, provoked by environment.

Professor Milford Wolpoff, from the University of Michigan, belongs to the orthodox school and rejects most of the latest ideas. He opposes the new theory based on genetic evidence called the "Garden of Eden" hypothesis, which

suggests that all modern races descend from a single African woman, or "Eve", who lived only a short time ago in terms of evolutionary timescales.

Scientists who represent the various contemporary views of evolution were included in Dr Sulloway's studies. He measured 80 variables for the participants in 28 large scientific controversies over 450 years.

He noted that one of Darwin's key defenders, Thomas Huxley, had a high probability of endorsing the theory when the method of analysis was used. By the same token, one of Darwin's key critics, John Herschel, a first born, also fitted the Sulloway analysis.

Professor Sulloway added that his theory of birth order may apply to other historical revolutions, with "later borns", for example, leading the Protestant Reformation of 1517 to 1570, and even among divisions within families of European political leaders.

He said that while the theory predicted attitudes towards innovation, "it will not tell you whether that innovation is a correct theory or not".

He claimed his model could be used to predict or influence the outcome of a committee reviewing a scientific innovation.

● The return in epidemic proportions of the scourge tuberculosis to Western inner cities and Third World countries was predicted yesterday by medical experts.

Dr John McGowan, of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at Bethesda, Maryland, said two decades of effort that brought TB under control was in danger of being thrown away.

The upward trend began after 1977, and the rise in TB is said to be linked to infection by the Aids virus.

'Exam cheat' appeal

Mr Francis Foecke, an American student, today enters the final round of his three-year battle to clear his name of the charge of cheating in his final degree examinations. A special appeal hearing sits at Bristol University's Senate House to consider detailed allegations of "irregularities".

At a December hearing Mr Ian Karsten, barrister for the board of examiners, said Mr Foecke's papers had some "bizarre" coincidences, including a piece of "gobbledygook" in the same place as in the examiner's model solution.

Rival for Coe

The Labour Party yesterday selected Mr John Cosgrove, a teacher, to challenge Mr Sebastian Coe for the Falmouth-Camborne constituency at the next general election. The Liberal Democrats will select their candidate next month.

Rail fan lost

The hunt for Mr Graham Nuttall, aged 42, from Burnley, Lancashire, a railway enthusiast missing for several days, is being centred on the Elan Valley in south Wales.

Bond winners

National Savings Premium Bonds weekly prize draw winners are: £100,000, number 20SB 226891, from Worcester; £50,000, number 29CT 265298, from East Sussex; £25,000, number 10SK 040395, from Dudley.

TV gun theft

Several hundred pounds and a shotgun were stolen from the set of the Yorkshire Television "soap opera" *Emmerdale Farm* in Farsley, Leeds.

BREL profit

British Rail Engineering made a £7 million pre-tax profit in six months after being sold by the Government last year; 7,000 workers each made a £29 profit from free shares.

Death fall

An investigation has been launched at the British Aerospace factory in Broughton, Chester, after Mr Peter Evans, a contractor's electrician, fell 80ft from a crane to his death.

Trout test

Rutland Water, closed for a month last year after algae was thought to have poisoned 20 sheep and dogs, is to be stocked with 40,000 trout.

Club for sale

Harrods is to sell its sports club, a Victorian mansion set in 27 acres, for £5 million after planning permission for a leisure complex was refused.

Risk to birds

Some 800 rare birds are at risk after their sanctuary at Trispen near Truro was ordered to close yesterday.

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USAir

Police and prosecutors locked in 'a state of war'

A Commons select committee has been investigating the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) since January 31 and is due to renew taking evidence on Wednesday. The three-year-old service has been described as "a shambles" with its reputation "at crisis point". Jamie Dettmer reviews the evidence and reveals the depth of bitterness between the police and the service.

The CPS has been under attack since it was launched in 1986, particularly from the police. Senior prosecutors say that springs from police resentment at losing their traditional prosecuting rights.

The service has had little success in improving conviction rates and has been attacked by magistrates, defence lawyers, court clerks and the judiciary for wasting court time by making frequent legal and clerical errors.

The CPS says that many of its mistakes are caused by lack of police co-operation and by the incompetence of officers.

Mr Allan Green, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, told the Home Affairs committee that some officers obstructed the work of the CPS and said the service "was a bitter pill for certain police officers", but he denied it amounted to "a feud".

However, Police Federation officials receive dozens of complaints about Crown prosecutors from junior officers, many of whom are new to the police and who bear no ill-will to the idea of an independent prosecution service.

Officers complain about:

- The reluctance of Crown prosecutors to proceed with theft and burglary cases based just or mainly on fingerprint evidence;
- The tendency to avoid court proceedings in juvenile crime;
- The alacrity to accept and

even to instigate plea-bargaining in cases where a lengthy trial is likely; and

• Failure to press police objections to bail applications.

Crown prosecutors argue that police fail to understand the strict CPS criteria on what constitutes evidence. They want "water-tight" cases before proceeding, unlike the old police-employed county prosecutors who would "have a bash" even when the chances of a conviction were only slim.

"The police often fail to understand what evidence is," one Crown prosecutor in London said. "They have not forgiven us for taking over. Relations are tense — a state of war conducted in civil phrases."

The level of dissatisfaction is illustrated in a letter from three senior Crown prosecutors to the Metropolitan Police, listing 22 complaints.

The complaints include: inadequate background material and information; surrounding circumstances and officers' opinion often not included; list of known witnesses often incomplete; summary of facts often poor, but frequently illegible in any case; details of compensation frequently missing; rarely any investigation of assertions/defences raised by defendants; either late or no response to CPS letters requesting further evidence or further investigations.



Miss Beatrice McCauley-Slowe, a Crown prosecutor at Camberwell court, plodding through piles of paper before starting her day's work.

Case of the missing files and witnesses

The police sergeant in the witness box was taken aback by the question from the flustered Crown prosecutor: "You do know why you are here?"

The magistrate was also unsure of this line of questioning and the defending solicitor looked surprised.

A ripple of smiles greeted the next request: "Perhaps, you could tell the court why you are here... because I don't know as I cannot find the file."

It was just another occasion of the Crown Prosecution Service mislaying a file.

The case was the eighth that morning at Camberwell Magistrates' Court in south London for Miss Lily Saw, and did not accurately reflect her abilities as a prosecutor. Miss Saw, a young and obviously rising lawyer, is widely respected by the defence lawyers who work at Camberwell.

Like Crown prosecutors up and down the country, she had arrived in court with a huge pile of cases. Unlike the defence lawyers, who only had a couple of cases each to deal with, Miss Saw, who declined

to be interviewed, had to cope with a full day in court, turning her mind from motoring offences, to drugs to theft and burglary.

The atmosphere in Court No 1 became stuffy and close as Miss Saw ploughed on. The bustle at the back of the court did not deflect her as she picked up the threads of cases that had been adjourned from other hearings because of missing files or missing witnesses.

One welcome diversion came when one of the area's well-known drunks, who had appeared before another bench the previous day, was asked: "How much money do

you have in your pocket?"

"Fifteen pounds, sir," "Fined £15, then."

Not all the cases went that smoothly. Statements and information were regularly missing from files.

In one case of criminal damage in a public house, the name of the owners was missing and a delay was caused while a police officer telephoned the public house to discover to whom the compensation order should be made out.

In another case, the offender who was thought still to be under a probation order for another offence turned out to have no such order outstanding.

The magistrate grumbled: "This happens all too frequently."

In the neighbouring court motoring case after motoring case had to be adjourned because no print-out was available from the driving licence centre in Swansea of defendants' licences. Most would take four weeks to arrive, according to the Crown prosecutor. "We are assured by the authorities that four weeks is not necessary but we can never get around it," the senior magistrate on the bench said.

According to defence lawyers, the frequent delays in print-outs from Swansea are

another example of the creaking criminal justice system — the results of inefficiencies at the licence centre, in the CPS and in local police forces.

In another case, a defendant was put on remand for the third time because a statement was missing from the file. "Wasting the court's time," muttered the magistrate, who seemed reconciled to the slow pass of justice.

But his equanimity was disturbed later in the morning when a case had to be dismissed because of a clear error by the CPS in failing to get an essential statement.

The case, concerning two men who were accused of stealing a credit card, collapsed because of the lack of a statement from the "loser". After weeks of being asked by the CPS to provide a statement from the loser, the police discovered that the victim had moved to Canada. The police gave up.

The CPS failed to realize that a statement from the credit card company would have sufficed.

Convictions improve only slightly

In reviewing cases Crown prosecutors are meant to weed out weak cases, be fair to the accused and save valuable court time and expense. The CPS has only slightly improved on the conviction rates achieved by the police for defendants who plead not guilty in Crown Courts.

Crown prosecutors claim that many of

mistakes in cases and delays in the courts are the result of the inefficiency of the Crime Support Units, civilian-staffed police groups responsible for passing on files, evidence and information to the CPS. Some prosecutors believe that the units should be done away with and that a new link between the police and the CPS established.

Police officers accuse the CPS of "going soft" on people charged with assaulting the police.

They complain about charges of "causing bodily harm" — an indictable offence dealt with by crown courts — being repeatedly reduced to assaults, triable by magistrates, to save time and money.

They say that this procedure places officers in extra danger because an assault conviction has little deterrent value.

Mr Mike Bennett, chairman of the Police Federation's Metropolitan branch, also says that the CPS tends to drop charges for assaulting officers when offenders face several other charges.

"At a time when attacks on officers are increasing it is not surprising that this approach builds up resentment," he said.

One recent case in south London led a young officer to write to his superior expressing

"distress". The policeman explained that another officer arrested a man for being drunk.

"Whilst in custody the prisoner became violent, and I was one of a number of officers who assisted in restraining him," the policeman wrote.

"During the struggle the man kicked me in the face causing a large swelling under my right eye."

"I was examined by the divisional surgeon and was placed sick. My face was very tender and the swelling caused my right eye to close up. The bruising remained for two weeks."

The man was charged with being drunk and of causing actual bodily harm to the officer but both charges were dropped by the CPS and replaced with an assault charge.

The man pleaded guilty and was fined.

The police constable said

Service short of 465 lawyers

The CPS has dealt with five million cases in three years. It has discontinued or withdrawn 256,000 cases.

There is a wide variation in the discontinuance rates across the country, ranging from 4 per cent to 19 per cent.

It is not the case that the area with the lowest discontinuance rate has the best conviction rate.

In reviewing cases Crown prosecutors are meant to weed out weak cases, be fair to the accused and save court time and expense.

Since its formation the CPS has been seriously understaffed. Most of the 30 CPS administrative areas have never been fully staffed.

Despite several recruitment initiatives, the CPS is still short of 465 lawyers — which is 23 per cent of its required complement.

Because of the staff shortage, nearly £15 million was spent last year by the CPS on payments to non-staff lawyers (agents) to conduct cases.

Last year, 35 per cent of all CPS cases were prosecuted by agents.

The CPS has only slightly improved on the conviction rates achieved by the police for defendants who plead not guilty in crown courts.

Last year, 47 per cent of defendants who entered a plea of not guilty were acquitted. In 1987 it was 50 per cent and the year before it was 52 per cent. Before the CPS was formed, the average acquittal rate was 48.3 per cent. Last year Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney-General, had said: "If there was a 50 per cent acquittal rate, the CPS would be accused of wasting taxpayers' money and not doing its job properly."

Spokesmen for the service deny that there is any feud between the police and the service, and they argue that talk of a "crisis" in the CPS is overplayed.

However, the evidence submitted to the Home Affairs Committee by the Association of Chief Police Officers was described by one MP as "bitter, not to say bitchy."

In its evidence to the Home Affairs Committee, the Criminal Bar Association said that it had found that 90 per cent of its members thought the prosecution system was worse under the CPS than before its creation.

Crown prosecutors say that many of mistakes in cases and delays in the courts are the result of the inefficiency of the Crime Support Units, civilian-staffed police groups responsible for passing on files, evidence and information to the CPS.

Some prosecutors believe that the units should be done away with and that a new link between the police and the CPS established.

While the CPS has been attempting to keep the lid on the conflict with the police, officers are less restrained.

One Police Federation official described the CPS at a conference as the "Criminal Protection Society."

Police 'lax in supplying evidence'

"Of course, one of the main reasons the lower ranks in the police hate the CPS is that they have much less opportunity now to pick up a nice lot of overtime pay for court appearances outside their shift times," Mr James Morton, a lawyer who frequently acts as an agent for the CPS, says.

Although acknowledging that the CPS was a "shambles" when it first started operating, Mr Morton tends to blame the police for many of the blunders in cases.

"Police are often very lax about producing the necessary evidence. You can request day after day for information without getting it."

"In one case, I asked for an estimate for repair work on a police door. Two months later, the officer left a message that he had been on holiday and he would not have time to do anything for a week or so because he was on night-shift."

Mr Morton, who is also editor of the *New Law Journal*, believes that the police harbour less resentment of the CPS now. "Initially, they did not like their autonomy over prosecuting being taken away. But I do think officers have lost a lot with the formation of the CPS."

The fact they are less in court means that the younger ones do not get used to giving evidence and what will suffice as evidence in a court of law. They also lose some opportunities in gaining knowledge about the local underworld. With not being in court so much they do not

• CPS needs power to compel police to respond to requests for information •

see who comes to watch a case in the public gallery, who a criminal's friends are. When the CPS first started it had a tremendous feel of adventure. There was a pioneering spirit.

He thinks the CPS has improved since its early days. "What the CPS needs now is power to compel the police to respond to requests for information."

• "Crown prosecutors lack a stiff fighting spirit — too many cases are discontinued, particularly ones based on fingerprint evidence," Mr Mike Bennett, chairman of the Police Federation's Metropolitan branch, says.

According to the police, the CPS does not like cases based just on fingerprint evidence. Officers claim that most of the

time the only evidence you can get to put away car thieves and burglars is fingerprint evidence.

One recent case based on fingerprint evidence in Kent seems to support the Police Federation's argument.

A house in Orpington was broken into. A rear ground-floor window of the house, which was in the process of renovation, was broken but the burglar could not gain entrance. He then jammed open a new rear door to the kitchen.

There were signs that rooms were searched and decorating materials were left in disarray. No property appeared to be stolen but there was £350 worth of damage down to the house.

Fingerprints were taken and matched to a known burglar, a juvenile. He was arrested and denied having gone to the house. He was charged with breaking and entering with intent to steal.

A month later Mrs J A Terry, a local Crown prosecutor, discontinued the case.

"The reason for my decision is that there is insufficient evidence to substantiate a case against this defendant," Mrs Terry said.

Famous name revived

Rover plans to build new MG sports car

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

A new sports car bearing the MG name, one of the most famous in British motoring, is being planned by the Rover Group.

Company designers are working in secret on a project to build a model which will revive the traditions of popular two-seater, open-topped motoring — and take on rivals from Japan and Britain, including Lotus.

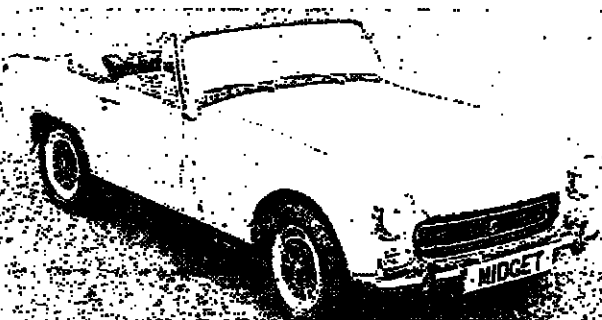
Sir Graham Day, Rover's chairman, has refused to give details on future model planning. However, enthusiasts may have to wait only five years to see how Rover proposes to breathe new life into MG with its exclusive red badge, first introduced 60 years ago.

Although MG was Britain's

most successful specialist sports car company, manufacturing 500,000 MGB models alone, it was closed in 1980 under the sweeping rationalization of the ailing BL group initiated by the then chairman, Sir Michael Edwards. Rover has since used the MG marque only for sporty versions of the Metro, Maestro and Montego.

The company still would not say officially last night that the project has been given the go-ahead. However, the new generation of Rover models leaves no gap for MG derivatives in the present line-up.

The motoring magazine, *Car*, is speculating that the new MG will challenge the revitalized Lotus Elan, to be launched in the next few



A Midget: One of the last cars to be built at the MG factory was a valuable export asset, especially in America where an estimated 300,000 MGs are still on the roads.

Such enormous exports rose from humble beginnings in the early 1920s in the Oxford garage business run as a retailing sideline by the motor

1950s in Britain, with 100,000 sold, and later the MGB.

The MGB was in production for 18 years until the disease afflicting the huge BL conglomerate spread to MG's Abingdon factory. BL calculated in 1980 that it lost £900 on every MGB it sold in America.

The end was almost theatrical with executives and 100 American dealers and their wives assembled at the Connaught Rooms, London, for a dinner to celebrate 50 years of production at Abingdon. But the message was that MG had reached the end of the road.

The legend has refused to die. British Motor Heritage, a Rover subsidiary, still manufactures body shells and components for ageing MGBs, belonging to collectors and enthusiasts.

SALEROOM

by John Shaw

98 per cent sold. Mr Miles Morris, of Christie's car department, said afterwards: "This was a very successful sale. We hope to have others because there are plenty of good cars in Australia."

A rebuilt 1928 4½-litre Bentley sports tourer in British racing green sold well above its estimate at \$A313,500 (£143,807) to an Australian collector, and a 1933 Rolls-Royce Phantom II Continental sports saloon

went to another English collector for \$A286,000 (£131,192), although it also needed mechanical attention. The Continental, with a burr walnut dashboard, 7.7-litre engine and coachwork by Freestone & Webb, is considered the most elegant of all Phantom IIs produced between 1929 and 1935.

An 1898-99 Star 34½hp Vis-a-Vis, one of the first 10 built by the company and exhibited in the 1898 Motor Show at Olympia, sold for \$A176,000 (£80,733). It is in running order and will stay in Australia.

• A collection of classic cars which had lain neglected in an

overgrown Somerset orchard for 16 years, fetched £150,000 at auction at Taunton on Saturday.

The sale included three Daimlers, three Model T Fords, two Lagondas and an assortment of spare parts.

One buyer paid £28,000 for a First World War Thornycroft lorry, and a record £21,000 was paid for an immaculate 1950 Model T Ford tourer.

A rare Calthorpe, with wooden wheels and interior, was bought by Mr John Calthorpe, a descendant of the manufacturer, for £28,000. He is to return the two-seater to Birmingham for restoration.

Whitehall Brief

Applicants call the tune for top Civil Service job

In the "executive search" columns over the next few days the Government will start advertising for a super-manager.

The Department of Social Security seeks someone sharp enough to run its huge network of benefit offices, but not so bright that he or she will run rings round the handful of officials who will be left at headquarters when the new Social Security Benefits Agency (SSBA) is set up.

Whitehall is, uncharacteristically, taking a big risk. Mr Michael Partridge, the permanent secretary, will find it difficult to keep a job for himself, let alone ensure a viable central core to the department's remains to keep in check the three agencies it is being carved into.

The unprecedented nature of the reform can be illustrated by what will happen, at the end of next month, to social security computing, one of the biggest administrative networks in the world. Mr John Kenworthy, the ex-Ministry of Defence systems expert appointed chief executive of the new Information Technology Service Agency, talks of "Kenworthy plc", and of the prospect of privatizing the agency — future options which raise any number of pregnant questions about the future of the benefits regime and the DSS.

It is only talk, as Mr

Kenworthy is the first to emphasize. Working out of operational headquarters in Lytham and bases in London, and at the main benefits computers in the North East, Mr Kenworthy has detail to attend to. He has to write a series of contracts with his principal customers — the SSBA (to be established in 1991) and the new agency that will manage National Insurance contributions.

What will happen if they, as they will be entitled to, choose another supplier of information technology remains to be worried over.

Mr Kenworthy sounds like a go-out-and-get-on practical man, but it is soon apparent he has been thinking hard. If information technology is really only a tool for solving organizational problems, ought you to have it off into a specialist agency? Would it not be better to keep your IT in house as the Inland Revenue is doing?

There are other nostrums that need examination, too. "The agency's got to be commercially competent," he says; that is not the same as being competitive. The SSBA will be locked in to the information technology he will be supplying, as he is locked into mainframe computers supplied by ICL.

That is for the longer haul. For the moment, he seems to be a man running on the adrenalin of starting up a multi-million pound busi-

ness. He has cost reduction targets to meet; he has to motivate staff used to Civil Service decorum; to make clients face the first time the cost of their computer usage — and all the while keep a weather eye on the permanent secretary, ministers, MPs, the Public Accounts Committee and the pamphlet of democratic accountability.

It turns out that in the rush he has forgotten something most commercial managers would think very important — his own pay. Mr Kenworthy had been doing the top IT job in the Department of Social Security and was appointed to be chief executive of the ITSA to ensure continuity, so he stays on his civil servant's under-secretary grade. He will get some sort of performance bonus but seems remarkably unconcerned about its exact value.

Such public service luxury will, however, be denied the dynamic types who may be thinking of responding to the advertisements for chief executives of the SSBA. For almost the first time in Whitehall, applicants for this Senior Civil Service appointment will name their price. Some multiple of the benefits payments the SSBA will be making to social security claimants will doubtless suffice.

David Walker

Service short of 465 lawyers

The CPS has lost 256,000 cases in the last year. There is a wide range of reasons for the drop. The discontinuance rate has risen from 4 per cent to 13 per cent. It is not the case in all areas with the discontinuance rate being as high as 25 per cent in some. In reviewing cases, prosecutors are now more careful to avoid weak cases, to save costs and expense. Since its formation, the CPS has been serious about its administrative management. It has never been fully re-organised. Despite several initiatives, the CPS is still short of 465 lawyers. It is 25 per cent of its complement.

Because of its size, nearly 800 staff are spread over 100 offices. Payments to counsel (barristers) to prosecute cases last year, 25 per cent of CPS cases were paid.

The CPS has also improved its service to defendants who are guilty in some cases. Last year, 4 per cent of defendants were acquitted. This was a record for the CPS. It was also a record for the CPS. It was also a record for the CPS.

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MANAGING DIRECTOR

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De Klerk likely to meet ANC team within month

From Gavin Bell, Johannesburg

Peace talks between the South African Government and the African National Congress are expected to begin within a month, amid optimism that both sides are prepared to compromise on obstacles to wider negotiations on a new constitution.

Official sources in Pretoria expect President de Klerk to give the go-ahead for the meeting early this week, following a decision by the ANC to send a high-ranking delegation to confer with him. The timing of the historic encounter is uncertain, but it seems likely both sides will wish to take place before March 21, the date set for Namibia's accession to independence from South Africa. Both Mr de Klerk and Mr Nelson Mandela, the veteran ANC leader, are expected to attend the celebrations in Windhoek, the Namibian capital, and would wish to do so as partners in the quest for peace in their own country.

Dr Gerrie Viljoen, the Minister for Constitutional Development, said the Govern-

ment was still studying Friday's announcement in which the ANC said it was ready to negotiate a suspension of hostilities once obstacles to negotiations have been removed.

Professor Wimpie de Klerk, the President's elder brother, who has emerged as an important conduit between the two sides, said at the weekend: "Everything is going according to plan. I personally expect the result of the meeting will be positive."

Professor de Klerk, a liberal Afrikaner academic with long-standing contacts with ANC leaders, said he was convinced about coming to the negotiating table. "The slight accent still on violence and the armed struggle is so secondary that the question is academic, and not one of content. I think it was an outstanding step for them to ask for a meeting. They want to sit down and talk business."

High on the agenda will be ANC preconditions for negotiations, notably the release of

all political prisoners and an end to the state of emergency, and the Government's insistence that the organization give a clear commitment to peace. Significantly, both Mr de Klerk and Mr Mandela said last week that "everything is negotiable".

Mr Andrew Mlangeni, one of Mr Mandela's fellow treason trialists who was released last October, said at the weekend: "I can only assume some provisions in the Harare Declaration (setting out ANC preconditions) are negotiable. I think everything is open to negotiation, really."

Despite fundamental differences between the two sides, on both political and economic policies, government sources are encouraged by the mutual respect which has developed between Mr de Klerk and Mr Mandela, as well as the high regard which the ANC leader has expressed for two senior cabinet ministers closely involved in the process — Dr Viljoen and Mr Kobie Coetsee, the Minister of Justice. It is also regarded as

fortunate that three of the four are trained lawyers, while Dr Viljoen is an academic and philosopher who is said to have the keenest intellect in the Cabinet.

The ANC announcement left a question mark over Mr Mandela's role. For almost 30 years the governing National Party has been wondering what to do with Mr Mandela, and now apparently it is the ANC's turn. Despite close questioning, the collective ANC leadership in Lusaka left his position vague.

ANC sources said later the delegation to Pretoria would probably be led by Mr Alfred Nzo, the acting chairman, supported by Mr Thabo Mbeki, the organization's foreign affairs specialist, and Mr Pello Jordan, its chief of information. It is inconceivable that Mr Mandela will be excluded from the talks, although his public role may be that of senior adviser, in accordance with his own self-description as a "loyal and disciplined" ANC member. Intelligent Afrikaner, page 12

Hockey fans put to flight



Police dispersing ticketless fans who wanted to attend the World Cup hockey match between The Netherlands and India at a stadium in Lahore at the weekend. The clash preceded an attack on Indian players by students armed with sticks and stones and inflamed by the recent violent confrontations in Jammu and Kashmir (Renter reports). Jammu and Kashmir has been governed as a state of India but contested by Pakistan since Partition. The World Cup incidents follow Delhi's crackdown on the Muslim independence movement in the state. Pakistani authorities tightened security at the World Cup yesterday after the protesters twice interrupted the contest in which The Netherlands defeated India 5-3. Officials of

the International Hockey Federation had threatened to call off the tournament if such incidents continued and held an emergency meeting with the local organizing committee. The authorities agreed to deploy more police at the stadium and bar spectators from stands behind the players' seats during all Indian matches, hockey officials said. These stands were closed yesterday when India played Australia and there was no incident, the officials said. The flags of all 12 participating countries were removed from one side of the stadium yesterday so that none could be pulled down by protesters, but those on the main pavilion continued to fly.

England fail, page 39

Japan's veteran bounces back

From Joe Joseph Tokyo

After campaigning like a nervous newcomer, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the former Japanese Prime Minister who dreams of being a future Japanese Prime Minister, beamed with relief as he arrived at his campaign headquarters in the city of Takasaki, in the mountains of Gunma, north of Tokyo.

Waving his right fist through the chilly air in triumph at his just-announced re-election, he swiftly swapped the long-faced humility he had shown to voters on the campaign trail for his familiar imperious sneer.

Mr Nakasone's fortunes were being closely followed not only because he is one of Japan's best-known elder statesmen. His race had turned into a litmus test of whether the Recruit bribes affair was to become just another of the nation's many postwar political bribery scandals or the one that finally proved too much for voters to stomach. The Japanese have adventurous appetites and seemingly resilient stomachs.

Mr Nakasone, now 71, led a roll call of the grand old men of Japanese politics who had become entangled in the Recruit mess last year but had survived to join their constituency supporters in cries of "Banzai" last night.

Taking his win as absolution for his links to Recruit, a traditional Japanese interpretation of the cleansing power of elections, Mr Nakasone told his supporters: "I don't know how to express the gratitude I feel. It's been a very hard battle, the most decisive of my political career. Thank you for helping me."

He later told the reporters he had snubbed throughout his campaign, for fear they would nag him about Recruit. "The issue of Recruit has been settled. This election was the final judgement of the people and I passed the test, which means, I think, the issue has been settled. The people of Gunma have made the right decision and I regard it as the voice of the people of Japan."

Mr Takao Fujinami, the one MP actually on trial for taking bribes from Recruit, was also re-elected.

Natal feuds keep hearses busy

From Nicholas Beeston, Imbali, Natal

The busiest road on a weekend afternoon in these parts is the dirt track that leads to the Azalia cemetery on a hilltop with a spectacular view over this black township outside Pietermaritzburg, the capital of Natal province.

The ancient black-painted American station wagons converted into hearses run a shuttle service for the black youths killed in the week's violence between the radical United Democratic Front (UDF), which supports the African National Congress, and Inkatha, Chief Mangosuthu Buthe's conservative Zulu movement.

Last week was particularly busy for the undertakers, with scores dying, most of them young Front members killed while celebrating the release of Mr Nelson Mandela, the veteran ANC leader.

When they came to bury Uvusi Ntombela, aged 17, his family, friends and "Comrades" from the UDF had to queue to let other mourners bury their sons and daughters before lowering his coffin into

the ground. "My brother was killed by Inkatha, and then his son, and now they have killed my son as well," the boy's father said, almost resigned to the brutality which in five years has claimed up to 3,000 black lives in Natal.

His son was shot dead by Inkatha supporters eight days ago when young UDF "Comrades" turned out in their hundreds to celebrate Mr Mandela's freedom.

In theory, the conflict is a political battle for control of the Zulu people in Natal. Traditionally they support Chief Buthe, whose power has been eroded over the past five years by the democratic front.

In practice, however, the conflict is more confused and self-perpetuating, as criminals take advantage of the lawlessness and the two sides become embroiled in vendettas and revenge killings.

At Ntombela's graveside the Methodist Reverend Ezra Ngobelo delivered a short sermon calling for restraint and peace. He was running late for

another funeral, however, and the mourners' minds had already turned to the next battle.

An elderly woman delivered a fiery speech naming the suspected Inkatha killer and calling for revenge. The "Comrades" responded by chanting ANC liberation songs, oblivious to the possibility that they could soon join their fallen classmate.

It is hard to exaggerate the fear and suspicion which reign over Imbali at night as families cower behind the bolted doors of their homes. No family is left unscathed by the violence, and no one is allowed to remain neutral.

On the street where Ntombela lived the silence was broken by the sound of gunfire, the howling of neighbourhood dogs and the diesel engines of the armoured personnel-carriers of army patrols.

The fallen boy's brother and a UDF friend, armed with a revolver, stood guard in the shadows in anticipation of another attack on the family,

and only one house remained conspicuous with its doors wide open and its lights on.

Inside it sat Mrs Fidele Foushe, aged 59, a middle-aged white volunteer and chairman of the Black Sash civil rights group in Natal. She was taking a phone call from a distressed neighbour whose house had come under fire.

"The penalties for killing a white person are far more severe than for killing a black, so if I intervene there is a good chance I can stop the violence," she said.

About a mile away grey smoke rose through the evening drizzle and a telephone call from an elderly resident in the area reported that a house was on fire.

During the evening Mrs Foushe was also shot at, investigated a shooting and took down the details of threats made against a woman by an Inkatha "war lord".

"It has been quite a busy night," she said. "I feel I have really accomplished something if I don't see any dead bodies when dawn comes."

Maude to offer Hanoi aid-for-repatriation deal

By James Pringle in Hanoi and Andrew McKewen in London

Mr Francis Maude, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, flew into Hanoi yesterday ready to offer British aid if Vietnam will allow the Hong Kong Government to send more boat people home.

The hopes of Britain and the Hong Kong administration of averting another huge influx depend on the talks which he is to have over the next three days.

Unless Hanoi clears the way for more mandatory repatriation flights, officials believe large numbers of north Vietnamese villagers will begin boat journeys next month. The flights are seen as the only effective deterrent.

The talking is likely to be tough, despite an offer Mr Maude is to make to help pay for new reception facilities for returning boat people. He is

also expected to hold out a prospect of a larger aid programme later, ending the British Government's previous refusal to assist the country.

However, reports that he went to Vietnam with an aid



Mr Maude: Will be meeting returned boat people today.

package already prepared were denied yesterday by Whitehall sources, who also dismissed suggestions that as much as £100 million could be on offer. It is thought in Hanoi that £2 million is more likely.

Vietnamese officials are critical of the handling by the British and Hong Kong governments of the previous mandatory repatriation flight on December 12.

Hong Kong was unable to meet a demand by Hanoi for no publicity, although 51 boat people were rescued from their beds by riot police at night in an attempt to avoid photographs. The Vietnamese sources, stung by the bad publicity which followed, said that the flight was "not a success".

British and Hong Kong sources have replied that they could not have done more

without limiting the freedom of the press.

If Vietnam accepts the aid offer, it will be the beginning of the end of an embargo imposed by the US and its allies following the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia in late 1978. The only other Western nation to break the embargo so far has been Italy.

While Britain's move may anger Washington, London has nothing to lose.

The US Administration blocked a 29-nation agreement nearly reached in Geneva last month, which would have approved the mandatory repatriation policy subject to a six-month delay.

Britain argues that Vietnam's military withdrawal from Cambodia last September ended the need for an embargo. However, Wash-

ington has not joined Britain in recognizing that the pull-out was completed.

The United States and other countries are holding out for a comprehensive settlement in Cambodia.

While British and Hong Kong officials fear the deterrent value of the December mandatory repatriation may have faded, Vietnamese officials in Hanoi take a different view. They think the outflow has been stemmed, partly by economic reform and partly by negative publicity in Vietnam over conditions in Hong Kong camps.

Mr Hoang Van Dinh, a local government official in Hai Phong, said he thought "very few" people would depart from the area — the biggest source of the Hong Kong boat people — when the sailing

season starts next month. But some Hong Kong officials say as many as 40,000 boat people could arrive to join 56,000 already there.

If Vietnam agrees to resume flights, British aid will be made available for development projects. Mr Maude said that the aid would be linked to Hanoi's current programme of economic reform and any project Britain supported would have to give a real prospect of improving living conditions. The projects are likely to include improving irrigation in agricultural areas and the provision of coastal fish farms.

After a first round of talks with Mr Dinh Nho Liem, the Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Maude will today visit two families who returned from Hong Kong voluntarily.

Asked if she would return to the West again as part of an orderly departure programme, and by air, she said: "Yes, I would go again by plane — but never by boat again."

Miss Vu Thi Hien, aged 22, left here last May returning only three days ago on the latest voluntary repatriation flight. Although she had a good job in the camp, she chose to return despite the fact that her parents remained in the camp.

Some neighbours have been abusive, she said. They say such things as "you left for Hong Kong but now you are back — you didn't keep your promise", "it was silly to go to that place that has no future".

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Boat people abandon dreams to return to their villages

From James Pringle Hanoi

Mr Tuong was not a very successful farmer in his village near impoverished Vietnam's border with China, so he resolved to take up fishing.

That enterprise, too, did not flourish, so he decided to make a new life for himself, his second wife and two children in the West by fleeing to Hong Kong in his only asset — his fishing boat.

But that did not work out too well either, and the family wound up in an overcrowded camp.

Nor was that the end of Mr

Tuong's troubles — he was among the 51 "economic migrants" who were sent home on the first, and so far only, mandatory repatriation flight last December.

Now he is back in his poverty-stricken village of Dong Deng, without his fishing boat and wondering what to do next. For the time being he has moved in with his mother-in-law.

Mr Tuong enjoyed a brief moment of fame when he was visited this week by Mr Emrys Davies, Britain's Ambassador to Vietnam, who made the arduous drive north in foul weather to see him. Mr

Davies or other members of the embassy's staff have called on most of the 51 people.

"Hanoi feels isolated from the rest of the world, and Dong Deng is tremendously isolated from Hanoi," he said.

"It was a cart track most of the way and the countryside around Dong Deng is pretty poor. This is the kind of area from which the economic migrants come from and which could benefit from development projects."

But at least Mr Tuong has received the equivalent of £120 from the British Government in

compensation. Miss Hoang Thi Thoa, aged 29, a seamstress, is one of the voluntary returnees. In her family's home here is a colourful poster of an American girl against a background of high-rise hotels and apartments in Waikiki Beach, Hawaii. "That was my dream," the girl says, indicating the picture.

After eight months in a camp in Hong Kong, she saw there was no future there. While she has received some compensation from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees since returning, life has not been easy.

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sive, she said. They say such things as "you left for Hong Kong but now you are back — you didn't keep your promise", "it was silly to go to that place that has no future".

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Aoun uses ceasefire to get troops out from key post

From A Correspondent, Beirut

The embattled Christian army of General Michel Aoun yesterday took advantage of a ceasefire to evacuate some 400 of its elite troops from a key army post and helicopter base north of Beirut, leaving rival militias in control of a vast region north of the capital.

But General Aoun refused to see the pre-dawn evacuation as a setback and said that his commando unit, after repelling advances by the rival Lebanese Forces militia for 17 days, had regrouped with other army ranks.

The Lebanese Forces militia of Mr Samir Geagea and army troops loyal to General Aoun have been fighting since Janu-

ary 31 for supremacy in the Christian enclave of central Lebanon where about a million Christians live.

Police and security sources said the militiamen had besieged the Adma base, 17 miles north of the capital, since then.

General Aoun's forces penetrated a militia stronghold on February 5 at Kiserwan, in the Christian heartland north-east of Beirut, to secure this vital army post and helicopter base.

The Lebanese Forces militia, dealt a severe blow by the fall of its main stronghold in east Beirut, began early on Saturday to shower Adma with hundreds of shells, killing

about 12 of its defenders.

Seventeen of Mr Geagea's fighters were killed also, while 60 others were wounded in four consecutive attacks, sources on both sides said.

Twenty hours later, a ceasefire agreement was announced and General Aoun's troops evacuated the base, taking their weapons and vehicles with them but setting fire to other equipment left behind and to the buildings.

The latest casualty figures raise the death toll since January 31 to 586 and the number of wounded to more than 2,200.

Red Cross ambulance buses evacuated the departing force.

Four killed as police battle with demonstrators in Nepal

Kathmandu (Renter) — Police

battled with thousands of anti-government students and political activists in central Kathmandu yesterday — Nepal's official Democracy Day — and at least four people were killed in clashes in the Nepalese countryside.

Banned political parties allied in the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy defied an official crackdown to launch the first demonstrations in the capital against the Himalayan kingdom's non-party political system for 11 years.

Police with batons charged and fired tear-gas at thousands of protesters who repeatedly regrouped, waving outlawed party flags and chanting: "We

want democracy." In Chitwan, a village 95 miles south-west of Kathmandu, witnesses said two students and a policeman died in a gun battle after activists burnt a government forestry vehicle police were using.

State-run Radio Nepal, quoting Interior Ministry sources, said a policeman was killed when demonstrators hurled a large stone at his head in Hetauda, 60 miles south of Kathmandu.

It said police had been injured by stone-throwers in two other towns and listed another 10 localities where it said the situation was now under control — implying there had been protests earlier. The radio, describing the dem-

onstrators as extremists, said that seven people were wounded in the Kathmandu protests.

Opposition sources said that they had received reports of 150 injuries in protests around the country, but they could not confirm a report on All India Radio that at least 10 people had been killed.

The Government admitted that it had detained more than 500 people before yesterday's launch of the campaign for open political activity.

Witnesses said some 10,000 demonstrators suddenly converged on Kathmandu's main street, taking the police by surprise. They were finally driven down side streets by about 200 riot police.

Sharon onslaught

Jerusalem — Mr Ariel "Arik" Sharon, the former general and popular right-wing politician, yesterday formally left the Israeli Cabinet and declared open warfare on Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister (Richard Owen writes). He launched a campaign against Mr Shamir's failure either to crush the Palestinian uprising by force or to "halt the slide" toward negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organization on an independent Palestinian state. Mr Sharon, aged 61, first announced his resignation at a stormy session of the Likud party central committee a week ago. But the Attorney General said that Mr Sharon had not followed proper procedures. Mr Sharon believes that Israel is heading for self-destruction through concessions to the Palestinians.

Madrid drug demand

Spain is to demand tighter controls to stop Gibraltar being used as a centre for laundering drugs money and to cut down on tobacco smuggling (Andrew McEwen writes). Señor Francisco Fernández Ordóñez, the Spanish Foreign Minister, will raise both issues with Mr Douglas Hurd, his British counterpart, when they meet in Madrid a week today. A senior Spanish official has said it is suspected that traffickers' profits have been used to set up companies in Gibraltar, where regulations are more liberal than in Spain.

COMMUNISM IN CRISIS

Pressure grows for second Romanian revolution

From Christopher Walker
Bucharest

A new slogan now echoes around the dimly-lit streets of Bucharest: "The ultimate solution is another revolution."

This battle cry of those dissatisfied with the running of the country two months after the overthrow of the *Conducator* is beginning to acquire a logic of its own.

"There is a feeling that people have been cheated, especially those young people who died on the barricades," said Mr Mihai Radu, aged 27, an engineer who has attended all the main demonstrations. "At first we did not believe it, but now it is becoming clearer that neo-communists have stolen the power."

In addition to the discontent on the streets and among the armed forces, whose loyalty is vital for any government to remain in power, the growing disillusion of a world-famous dissident such as Mrs Doina Cornea, the intellectual from the Transylvanian town of Cluj, has been a weather-vane of the national mood. It was Mrs Cornea, aged 60, who first signalled to the outside world that something was amiss when she stood down from membership of the Front's

original 145-member council, citing the reluctance of its leadership to abandon old Communist ways or dispense with personnel tainted during the 24-year tyranny of Nicolae Ceausescu.

Matters came to a head last week when Mrs Cornea, an impassioned advocate of the need for private enterprise to rescue the ailing economy, shocked her fellow citizens by appealing to Western governments not to go on giving aid to

● There is a feeling of people being cheated, especially the young who died on the barricades ●

Romania until the present administration was replaced.

Since the Front took power in December, it has already seen the departure of its influential Vice-President, Mr Dumitru Mazilu, its chosen head of Romanian television, Mr Aurel Munteanu, and its Defence Minister, General Nicolae Militaru, who was fired on Friday night.

All three left after pressure from the streets but none of the departures has

proved sufficient to restore stability. Some political scientists have argued that any revolution breeds a situation of constant evolution and over-exaggerated expectations.

But in Romania, long-known as a hot bed of intrigue, there is now a more commonly-heard justification for the continuing pressure for change.

Workers and students are becoming convinced of a theory which in the early days of post-revolutionary euphoria was restricted to some of the sharper Western commentators — especially those who noted that something with the name of "the National Front of Salvation" had been in existence before the battles which forced the dictator's humiliating flight.

The demonstrators, who last Friday began chanting for the first time "The National Salvation Front is the KGB", have become gradually convinced that the hand of the Kremlin is to be found behind the selection of leading members of the provisional Government, many of whom had earlier connections with each other and the Marxist policies which it is pursuing.

The conspiracy theory, given credence by the main Western intelligence services, gathers strength from the fact that

the interim President, Mr Ion Iliescu, for all his geniality, is a Communist *apparatchik* with a long record of faithful service to the party and close connections with President Gorbachov forged during his five years as a student in Moscow.

Many of the people named by Mr Iliescu to leading posts played little or no part in the fighting which finally defeated the ruthless Securitate men loyal to the Ceausescus, but most had past histories inside the Romanian Communist Party. Even interpreters permitted to work with the invading horde of foreign journalists were handpicked from a group with former connections with the old organization.

One of the few ministers without good Communist connections, Major Mihai Lupoi, the young Tourism Minister who gained his position after appealing on television for the Army to switch its allegiance to the revolution, was swiftly sacked.

"Most of them were old friends, part of a group that was determined to wield power in its own way," he said. "Anyone on the outside who thought differently, especially in a non-Communist way, was ignored."

Major Lupoi — subsequently subjected

to a Mafia-style accident when his car was mysteriously "bumped" by a heavy container lorry — has suggested that the 35 opposition parties form themselves into a single bloc to oppose the Front.

But this idea has been rejected, notably by Mr Ion Radu, the returned émigré and multi-millionaire who is a leading figure in the largest opposition group, the National Peasants' Party. The shipping and property magnate, aged 72,

● They want to keep everything running along lines of which Moscow would approve ●

said that "to oppose totalitarianism with another totalitarian concept is completely the wrong approach."

The continuing Communist influence has been marked in Romania's refusal to follow the path of Hungary and Poland towards economic reform. Even a leading Front thinker, Professor Silviu Brucan, was overruled when he suggested an upper limit of 50 employees for any firm to be run as a private enterprise.

The pro-Moscow clique plumped for a

maximum of 20, and that became law. Mrs Diana Zotescu, a former dissident who now belongs to the right-wing National Liberal Party, said angrily: "There is no support at all for any move towards a free market. They want to keep everything running along lines of which Moscow would approve."

Soon after the publication of the ultra-cautious free-enterprise law, she went to inquire about setting up a private tourist company. She was brusquely informed that no such move would yet be possible. "I was left with the impression that I should be content, like the rest of the country, with Soviet-type co-operatives," she said.

In the early weeks after the uprising, the Front was able to exploit the existing Communist Party infrastructure to raise effective shows of support swiftly from all the main factories around Bucharest.

There are now signs that its failure to disband the feared Securitate has eroded even some of that dependable support.

But its control over vital wielders of power such as the mass media (which dimly ignored last week's officers' revolt) have raised serious questions about whether the May 20 general election will provide a fair reflection of public opinion.

Thatcher warning on Israeli resettlement plan for Soviet Jews

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Mrs Thatcher yesterday warned the Israeli Government not to settle Soviet Jewish émigrés in the occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

She said that Israel's reputation had been damaged by its Army's response to the *intifada* in the occupied territories, and urged Jerusalem to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

However, the Prime Minister also urged President Gorbachov to fulfil his promises of better treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union and indicated that Britain's willingness to attend the human rights conference in Moscow next year would depend on how much that record improved.

Mrs Thatcher, who is seen as one of Israel's most dependable allies on the international scene, is intent on driving the Jerusalem Government towards the negotiating table. Addressing the British Board of Deputies in London yesterday, Mrs Thatcher, who has a significant Jewish constituency in her Finchley constituency, emphasized how "desperately anxious" she was to see progress towards peace in the Middle East at a time when so many problems around the world were finding solutions.

Renewing her appeal to Israel to negotiate with representatives of the Palestinians

on elections in the occupied territories, she said: "That is the only way progress is going to be made and a solution found to the tragic situation of the occupied territories, which is so harmful to Israel's reputation and standing in the world. We have always taken the view that land in return for a secure peace should be the basis for such a solution."

"I believe the problems would become worse still if Israel were to find homes for Jews from the Soviet Union by settling them in the occupied territories. We have all worked very hard to secure their right to emigrate."

She said: "It would be a very ironic and unjust reward for our efforts if their freedom were to be at the expense of the rights, the homes and the land of the people of the occupied territories."

The Prime Minister said that Israel's wish for peace with security would be achieved only by understanding the needs and fears of the other side and by finding ways in which both could reasonably be satisfied.

Mrs Thatcher praised Mr Gorbachov's record with regard to Soviet Jews and said that he had promised her last September: "There are no more obstacles, those who want to go can go."

With 100 synagogues now functioning and 70,000 Jews

emigrating from the Soviet Union last year, things were very much better. But, Mrs Thatcher added: "Equally, the problem is not yet finally resolved."

"Whether because of obstacles in the bureaucracy or for whatever reasons, there are still Jews wrongfully imprisoned."

"There are still long-term 'refuseniks' who are not allowed to leave the country. The draft emigration law which we have seen seems still too restrictive."

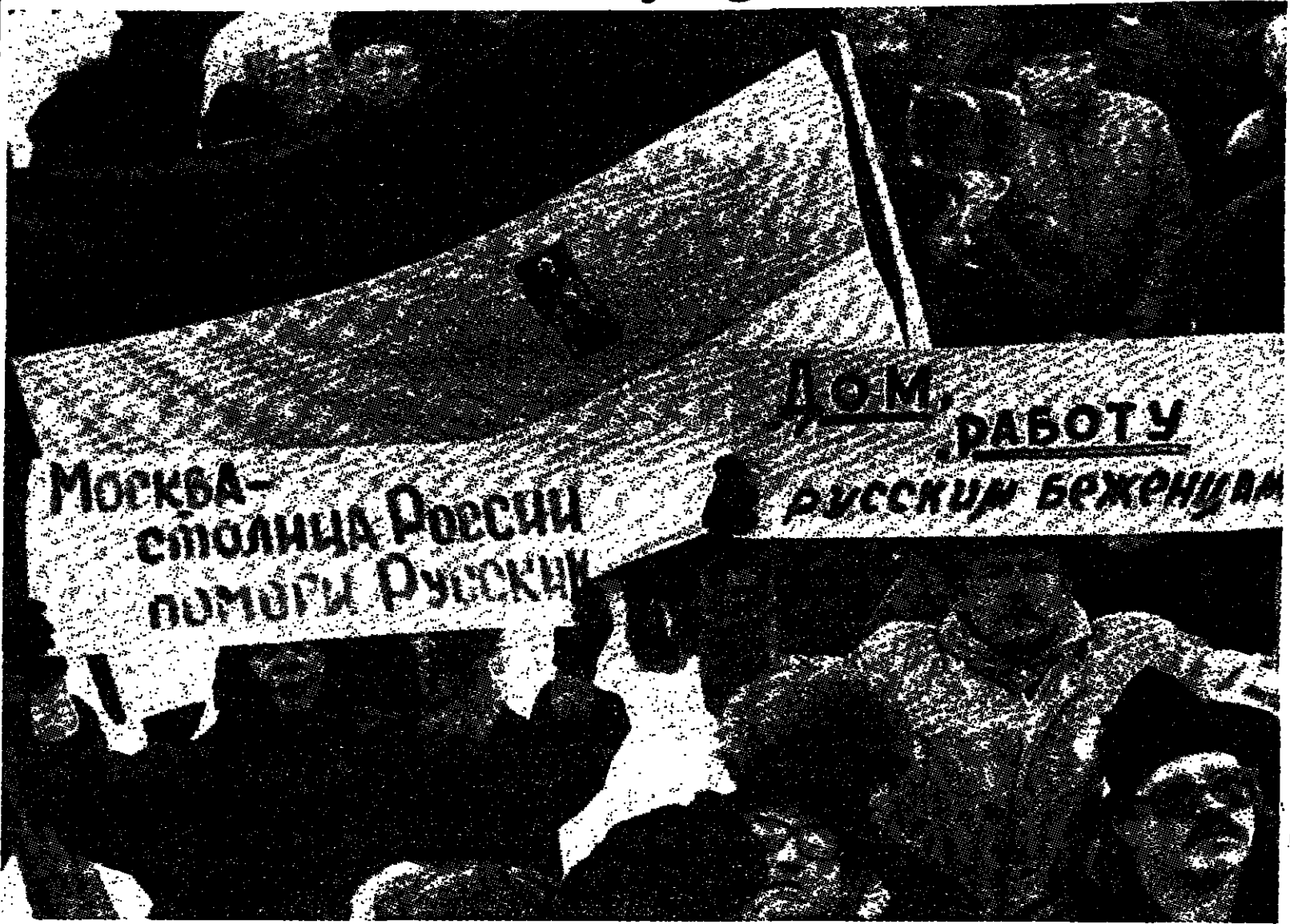
"There are worrying signs of anti-Semitic propaganda being put out by extremist organizations which have nothing to do with the Soviet Government. Indeed, it is entirely contrary to the spirit of *perestroika*."

Promising to keep up pressure, Mrs Thatcher said: "The Soviet authorities well know that we have yet to make up our minds about attending the human rights conference in Moscow next year — and that we expect the undoubted progress in their human rights record to be sustained."

Mrs Thatcher also hinted that the British Government had decided on the shape of legislation to allow the prosecution of suspected Nazi war criminals in Britain.

An announcement from Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, is expected soon.

Ethnic Russians rally against Gorbachov



Russian nationalist protesters displaying a tsarist flag and banners reading "Moscow is the capital of Russia. Help Russians" and "A home and work for Russian refugees", gathered in Moscow yesterday to accuse President Gorbachov of being power hungry and of plunging the

country into poverty. The demonstration, attended by at least 2,000 people near Soviet television's transmission tower, was organized by right-wing groups taking advantage of *glasnost*, to counter liberalizing measures they believe are hurting them, the Soviet Union's dominant ethnic population

(AP writes). The harshest attack on Mr Gorbachov came from Mr Boris Unko of the United Front of Workers of Russia, a group fighting his market-oriented economic reforms and the growing nationalism in non-Russian republics. Mr Unko told the crowd standing in deep snow that the people

had initially supported *perestroika*, but that "today we see what we got from that". Among the evils brought by Mr Gorbachov's reforms, Mr Unko listed rock music, "modernism and pornography", and "insults" to heroes of the Bolshevik Revolution and the Second World War.

Officials fight back against pressure

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

As reports came in that two more regional communist party leaders — in the cities of Novgorod in the north-west and Barnaul in the Altai region in south-eastern Russia — had resigned, there were signs that local party officials were starting to fight back against the tide of popular pressure that has cost at least 10 of them their jobs.

It was also revealed that the First Secretary of Tajikistan, who resigned last week after demonstrators called for his removal during violent protests, had been reinstated after a heated meeting of the republic's party leadership. The official communist party paper, *Pravda*, reported from the Tajik capital, Dushanbe, that an emergency plenum of the Tajik party's Central Committee had voted not to accept the resignation of Mr Makhkamov, the first secretary, on the ground that it had been submitted under duress.

Mr Boris Pugo, a senior official from Moscow, who is chairman of the Communist Party's Central Committee and a candidate member of the Politburo, was quoted as telling the meeting that "neither a job nor power is worth as much as a human life". The First Secretary's initial decision to resign, he said, had been dictated by "a sincere desire to prevent the tragedy of innocent people". "But, of course," he continued, "it is up to the participants in the meeting to decide."

According to *Pravda*, the meeting was deeply split. One group, it said, had argued for accepting Mr Makhkamov's resignation and opening a dialogue with the protesters, but the majority opposed any concessions and expressed confidence in the First Secretary.

Mr Makhkamov's political survival may be short-lived. Although violence has subsided in Dushanbe, tension is still said to be high. The *Pravda* correspondent said it resembled a frontline city, with armoured cars on the streets and helicopters patrolling overhead.

Evidence emerged yesterday that that a member of the Tajik leadership — the chairman of the republic's state planning committee, Mr Karimov — may have made a bid for power before or during the unrest.

Officials denied that there had been a coup attempt in the republic or that Mr Karimov was under arrest, but he was

Moscow — Mr Vladimir Shcherbitsky, the former long-serving head of the Soviet Communist Party in the Ukraine, died at the weekend, the day before his 72nd birthday (Mary Dejevsky writes). He had been ill for some time.

The official obituary, published yesterday, was signed by President Gorbachov and 46 other members of the Soviet leadership. He lost his Politburo seat in September.

reported to have been nominated spokesman for the protesters and possibly as an alternative leader. A senior official of the Tajik Communist Party admitted that rumours were circulating that the protesters' "Popular Committee" had been renamed the

"new Islamic party", but he said the "Popular Committee" denied having a "purely Islamic orientation".

The survival, however, temporary, of the Tajik First Secretary may encourage other republic and regional officials who are fighting to hold on to their power, and the party itself seems to be questioning the speed with which party committees have been removed. In a Ukraine report at the weekend, *Pravda* criticized the ease with which mass meetings had been able to force the resignations of whole party committees and suggested that a concerted campaign lay behind the removals.

While it admitted that some of the accusations against party officials were justified, it said many charges were unfounded and alleged that agitators were irresponsibly whipping up anti-party sentiment. The *Pravda* article follows the mass resignation after huge demonstrations of the politicians in Volgograd, Chelyabinsk, Ufa, Sverdlovsk, Vladivostok and the oil-

producing region of Tyumen (in the Russian federation), and, in the Ukraine, Ivano-Frankovsk, Chernovtsy, Voroshilovgrad and the mining centre of Donetsk.

There are also signs that some local party leaders are looking for scapegoats to save their own posts. A comment by the official news agency, Tass, on one report that the head of the Novgorod city party organization had resigned in the face of popular opposition was accompanied by scathing criticism of the regional party leader who, it said, had used the resignations as "a trick" on the eve of a mass protest meeting.

The agency said, the trick had not worked. "The speech at the rally by Ivan Nikulin, First Secretary of the regional party committee, was larded with words more suitable for addressing docile staffers than independent-minded and resolute people."

"Therefore his attempt to establish his authority over the rally failed. His speech was interspersed with catcalls and noise."

Kohl opens his election campaign over border

From Ian Murray, Bonn

Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, begins his election campaign in East Germany at Erfurt tomorrow as the high economic and political cost of reunification takes its toll on his popularity.

Saturday was the 100th day since the Berlin Wall was opened and weekend figures showed that, despite the promise of early unity along with injections of cash and expertise, East Germans are still flocking west rather than waiting for a better life at home. At the present rate, more than 600,000 will move to West Germany this year alone unless Herr Kohl can somehow persuade them to stay where they are.

The cost of doing this is now starting to cut through the euphoria over the prospect of unity.

In East Germany, Herr Kohl's refusal to pay out the DM15 billion (£5.3 billion) in emergency economic aid demanded by the round-table inter-party talks last week is apparently dimming the slender hopes of his Christian Democrat (CDU) allies in the election on March 18. According to a poll at the weekend, only 7 per cent support the four CDU allies, compared with 36 per cent for the Social Democrats (SPD).

The communists have only 5 per cent backing and the liberals and Farmers' Party around 2 per cent each. However, 45 per cent said they still had not made up their mind.

In an offer designed to help internal unity, the SPD announced at the weekend that, whatever the outcome of the election, it wants to see a coalition government formed afterwards capable of reflecting the diverse opinions of the voters. Although the parties have a range of ideological

differences, virtually all now favour reunification and will be ready to enter quick negotiations with Herr Kohl on implementing it.

The inevitability of reunification will be further underlined today when work starts on dismantling the 1.25 mile stretch of the Berlin Wall through the Brandenburg Gate to the Reichstag. It will be replaced by a simple wire fence, to make it more difficult for black marketers to sell subsidised goods in the West, a practice which is undermining what remains of the East German economy.

Although no cash was made available for East Germany last week, Herr Kohl's ministers spent the weekend trying to explain why and looking forward to better times ahead. A senior Bulgarian official has dealt his country was involved in the murder of Georgi Markov, a dissident, who was killed in London by a poison-tipped umbrella 12 years ago. In an article headlined "The Umbrella Was Not Bulgarian", the official BTA news agency quoted the Interior Ministry spokesman, as saying neither the Bulgarian Government nor its secret police had anything to do with the killing.

to explain why and looking forward to better times ahead. Herr Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister, told a conference of his Christian Social Union (CSU) in Augsburg that investment in German unity would be cheaper in the medium term than "subsidising division".

Herr Helmut Haussmann, the Economics Minister, appeared confident that a second German economic miracle was on the way with reunification. Surveys show that 180,000 West German com-

panies are ready and waiting to start up business in East Germany once a free market economy is introduced there after the election.

At the Frankfurt Fair, Herr Haussmann said he believed it was possible to make East Germany "EC-compatible" by 1993. The implication was that other European Community countries need not worry that they will have to bear the cost of redeveloping East Germany. Instead, by 1993, there will be a bigger and even richer Germany, united and ready to support Community integration.

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, also tried to calm international fears about reunification. At the weekend he told a crowd in his home town of Halle in East Germany that there must be quick recognition of Poland's existing western border.

Herr Kohl has so far refused to give a categorical commitment to accept the present line along the Oder-Neisse rivers on the ground that this is something that can only be done by the government of a united Germany.

Nearly all East German parties are anxious to put an end to the uncertainty about the agreed border with Poland and it is likely to be one of the first points the new government will try to resolve, perhaps with a joint statement by the two German governments before reunification.

It does now seem that Herr Kohl did give an undertaking on this to President Gorbachov during their recent meeting. It seems that this was part of the price Herr Kohl was prepared to pay in order to obtain agreement that unity was a matter that would be left to the Germans alone.

Czechoslovak party expels 22 former leaders

From Peter Green
Prague

The Czechoslovak Communist Party has expelled Mr Gustav Husak, the former President, and 21 other hardline former leaders, as it prepares to fight the country's first free elections in 41 years.

The 22 were accused of a "non-democratic and Stalinist approach to the developments in Czechoslovakia", a leading party official said.

Mr Milos Jakes, the former national leader and party General Secretary, was expelled on December 7 with Mr Miroslav Stepan, the former boss of the Prague city party.



Mr Husak: Party accused him of Stalinist approach.

Mr Husak, Mr Jakes and the others were installed after the 1968 Soviet-led Warsaw Pact

Saturday of the party's Central Committee as part of a big effort to expunge the unpleasant memories of the party's last 20 years in power.

Among the former leaders expelled were Mr Lubomir Strougal, the former Prime Minister, and Mr Jan Fojtek, the party's chief ideologist. A special passage in the Central Committee's report on the expulsion is said to explain the role of Mr Husak, who was jailed after a Stalinist show trial in the 1950s.

The party official said that Mr Husak had had a "positive role in 1948" — when the Communists seized power — but over the past 10 years as head of the country his contribution had diminished. The new reformist leader-

ship, under Mr Ladislav Adamec, the chairman, and Mr Vasil Mohoritz, the first secretary, are gambling that once the party is cleansed of those responsible for past oppression, it will regain some of its former status.

Today, the Communists are expected to make public their platform for the June elections. A party source said that political strategists were still fine-tuning the regional appeal of the manifesto, but insiders say it will bear more than a passing resemblance to a social democratic programme.

Mr Josef Hora, the Politburo spokesman, said the Communists' new electoral programme will formalize the party's new views and its loss of the monopoly of power.

Private enterprise will be encouraged, and the party will position itself as a champion of social justice, serving the interests of society's underprivileged and excluded.

"To paraphrase Karl Marx, there is a spectre haunting Europe. It is the spectre of social democracy. And we want to be part of this renaissance of social democratic ideas," Mr Hora said.

But the party seems to have postponed any change in its name until after the elections. "If we change the name, we can't get rid of responsibility for the past," Mr Hora said.

At least a third of the party's 1.7 million members have left, and an independent poll estimates that as many as 800,000 may have done so.

هكذا من الأصل

COMMUNISM IN CRISIS

China loyalty call shows unease over armed forces

From Catherine Sampson, Peking

Articles demanding that the military devoted itself to the Communist Party filled the pages of the *Liberation Army Daily* newspaper yesterday, reflecting increasing nervousness on the part of the Chinese leadership about the loyalty of the armed forces at a time when it may need them more than ever.

Sources say that some 3,000 officers are under investigation by military tribunals for refusing to obey orders during the bloody military crackdown last June, and that Lieutenant-General Xu Qinxian, of the 38th Group Army, is in prison.

Last week, the entire leadership of the People's Armed Police, a branch of the Army, was replaced. No official explanation was given, but many Chinese assumed it was "to make the leadership more reliable, of course".

The Armed Police is, in large part, made up of demobilized soldiers. They too took part in the Peking massacre last June.

Keeping control of the Army has, especially since the Romanian revolution, become a serious worry and a high priority. The leadership is clearly asking itself whether the Army would open fire again on demonstrators if ordered to do so.

"In the present situation," said the *Liberation Army Daily*, "the key to our struggle against bourgeois liberals is whether the Army adheres to the party's leadership and who is in charge of the Army. Only when politically reliable people are in charge can the Army keep its high standards."

This article noted that, had even one division rebelled last June, things might have been very different. Another piece warned that "no individuals in the Army are allowed to vie with the party over military leadership and political parties are not allowed to set up organizations and carry out activities within the Army."

Soldiers, it said, "should not assert their independence". The *Liberation Army Daily* has become a forum for articles which unintentionally let slip that the ranks are not as devoted as they might be. One recent example hinted strongly that "the enemy at home and abroad" was trying to stir up rebellion within the military and split the Army. Articles refer to the "confused opinions" of some soldiers, a usual way of referring euphemistically to total disagreement with the official line.

While information about the internal affairs of the Army is extremely hard to come by, Chinese who have friends and family in the military report that many of them are horrified that the Army should have been used in the way it was last June.

President Castro of Cuba, who sees his country as a beleaguered bastion of old-style Leninism, has responded to the upheaval in the communist world by launching a campaign to "perfect" and "revitalize" the workings of his ruling party.

Although presented as an attempt at "deep reform", the new programme appears not to aim at Gorbachev-type restructuring but at shoring up the party's control of the country's economic and spiritual life against the pressure for change buffeting the Caribbean island.

"What we are talking about is perfecting a single, Leninist party based on the principles of democratic centralism," the Central Committee said after a meeting on Friday. Democratic centralism is the name for the party dictatorship of national life devised by Lenin, adapted by Stalin and his successors and adopted by Dr Castro and other Third World revolutionaries in the 1950s and 1960s.

In recent months, Cuba has suffered severe shortages of food, other goods and consumer goods, mainly owing to a reduction in Soviet supplies.

President Castro toyed with free-market reforms five years ago before abandoning the experiment and returning to full central control. This year he declared that his people were prepared to die rather than give up the party state that he and his comrades imposed after the revolution.

Mr Jack Edwards, chairman of the Hong Kong British Ex-servicemen's Association, held a poster reading: Betrayed, never given vote or truly consulted by two governments, Hong Kong and Britain.

Poll disarray (Reuters) - The first free elections in the Comoros broke up in disarray as President Djohar rejected opposition calls to resign, opposition politicians said.

Gadaffi visit (Reuters) - Egypt gave Colonel Gadaffi, the Libyan leader, yesterday a rousing welcome for his visit.

Pompeii find (Reuters) - Archaeologists said they had unearthed an almost perfectly preserved marble statue of a child sitting on a dolphin.

Peace hopes (Reuters) - The prospects for peace between rival Tamil groups in Sri Lanka looked stronger after talks here, the Chief Minister of India's Tamil Nadu state said.

Victory claim (Reuters) - A former Muslim rebel leader claimed victory in elections to choose the governor of an autonomous region in the south.

Mongolia's rulers welcome new opposition party

From Our Correspondent Peking

Mongolia's fledgling democratic movement half-heartedly declared itself an opposition party yesterday as the communist party, which has ruled since 1921, welcomed the new opposition with open arms, appearing to promise a multi-party system within months.

At the opposition congress yesterday, activists criticized the communist party for causing an economic crisis, called for an end to bureaucracy and foreign debt, and urged liberalization of the economic and political systems.

But this is no fight-to-the-death Romanian-style opposition. The draft charter of the opposition called for the Mongolian Democratic Party to adhere to Marxism-Leninism and work within the context of the Constitution. Speakers several times referred to their desire to perfect the socialist system, leading observers to wonder what the opposition was against.

It did not, certainly, appear to threaten the communist party's hold on power. Moreover, the aims of the Mongolian Democratic Party, as described yesterday, are not entirely novel. Most have been mooted by the communist party, which on Saturday went one step further, appearing to give in gracefully to the demands of democracy.

Mr Dumaagiyn Sodnom, the Prime Minister, said Mongolia would abolish the communist party's monopoly on power. "Our goal is to transform the central planning system - which is decades old - into a system based on democratic principles," he said.

"I cannot say that monopoly of the political system is right," he added, emphasizing that "if new parties are formed



An official holding up a bowl of milk and a scarf in a traditional opening gesture as the Mongolian opposition congress began.

in the interest of the people and the country, they should be allowed to compete on equal terms."

Mr Sodnom did not, however, say when or if the Constitution would be changed to allow opposition parties to take part in elections. The Mongolian Democratic Party claims a membership of 60,000, just two-thirds the communist party's in a population of some two million.

Started in December last

year, the Mongolian Democratic Party has held five mass rallies in the centre of Ulan Bator, sometimes in bone-chilling temperatures.

Mongolia has been in the pocket of the Soviet Union for nearly 70 years, and diplomats are not surprised that Ulan Bator is taking its lead from Moscow in terms of *glasnost*, *perestroika*, and abandoning the leading role of the communist party. There are even cynics who suggest that perhaps the gentle opposition is the brainchild of the communist party, created to prove to Moscow that Ulan Bator is reforming.

Government officials were present at yesterday's congress, some of them appearing to cheer what was being said on the platform, and state-run television broadcast congress debates live.

Although the Mongolian Democratic Party may prove to be little more than a catalyst for change in Mongolia, creating little conflict, indications emerged yesterday that it might be more of a threat to the stability of China.

At the congress, leaders of the democracy movement who have previously shown little interest in Chinese-run Inner Mongolia, suddenly produced a white silk scroll of support said to be from their "brothers and sisters" on the other side of the border.

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SPECTRUM

Anne McElvoy meets the wheelchair veteran who inspired *Born on the Fourth of July*

The European premiere of *Born on the Fourth of July* in Berlin on Saturday began with the hushed anticipation you would expect to greet the latest Oliver Stone and Tom Cruise offering, already bound for multiple glory in this year's Oscars.

Few in the audience noticed the late arrival of a man in a wheelchair. When the same man rolled onto the stage after the film, his fingers aloft in a victory sign, the applause outstripped the euphoria traditionally reserved for director and actor.

For Ron Kovic, the Vietnam veteran on whose life the film was based, it was the culmination of a 12-year wait to make the war film he believed was missing: a film centred not on the horror of the fighting, but on the society which preceded it and the events that followed. "I feel that my tragedy and that of a whole generation has finally been turned into something good," he says.

Kovic set out for Vietnam from small-town Long Island as a Marine, the words of the high school recruitment officers ringing in his ears: "There is nothing prouder, nothing finer than a United States Marine."

He returned to apathy and embarrassment, told by an aide in the squalid Bronx veteran hospital that Vietnam meant nothing to people at home.

Could he really have been so naive? "I grew up with John Wayne movies and they led me to go to the war," Kovic says. "That is the way we grew up in America, playing guns in the woods, reading comic books, playing with little plastic tanks and guns and always with the background of 'America is right'."

"We were the greatest country in the world, and if our government told us to go off and fight a war then obviously the war must be a just one."

Kovic is unembarrassed by his obsession with his own suffering - he refers to it frequently during conversation as "a hell" and "my burden" - or by his desire to bring it to audiences who could not cope with the gore-and-roar violence of *Platoon* and *Hamburger Hill*. "This film had to be more than just another tear-jerker about one of our boys who ends up paralyzed," he says. "It had to make you look at America before Vietnam and after, and understand the change."

The self-pity which, he says, ate at his esteem following his return has been replaced by zealotry. "I wanted to do something with my suffering, to redefine notions of heroism and manhood. Young kids can watch this movie the way we watched John Wayne 30 years ago, and it is going to change the way they think about war."

Kovic describes the Rambo films as the current equivalent of his childhood fantasies and says: "There is always a danger that they will turn into reality. These movies are dangerous and they do a disservice to every young man in the country."

The presence of Tom Cruise, who has managed a deft flip from the brat-pack hero of his earlier roles to the serious actor in *Rain Man*, was calculated to bring the film a young audience.

It was first due to be made 12 years ago with Al Pacino as Kovic, but the project fell through four days before work was due to start when the bankers got cold feet. Oliver Stone promised Kovic that if he ever became successful he would return to the film.

Not long after the successful release of *Platoon* Kovic received a three-word phone call from the by-then acclaimed director saying, "Ronnie, I'm ready." "The next day I was on a jet to New York to re-live the past," Kovic says.

It is doubtful that America would have been ready for *Born on the Fourth of July* in the late



Ron Kovic: chance to re-live his painful past

Veteran on the road to glory

Seventies. "The 12 years were probably beneficial for everyone concerned. On a personal level I would not have been ready to cope with what has happened. The success of the film has turned my life into a hurricane."

He says the events portrayed have been kept as close as possible to his own experience. The Bronx hospital scenes, one of the goriest parts of a film which otherwise avoids the standard sanguinary excesses of the Vietnam genre, are true to life. "Right down the rats on the ward," Kovic says. "Talk to the men who came back to those places and they'll tell you that the only thing missing was the smell."

Seeing himself played during the worst time of his life when he returned to an uncomprehending America gripped by peace protests was painful. "The first time I saw Tom made up as me drinking, shouting, and accusing, I had to develop a mechanism to prevent me shouting. I had this little trick which was to say to myself, 'that's Tom, he's an actor, I'm Ron, I'm a person.'"

Kovic returned from Vietnam paralyzed from the chest down and impotent, a fact which obsessed him more than his inability to walk. "Scenes like that have only been able to emerge recently. I wanted it to be done with good humour, not to make people squirm."

He has spent the last week at the Berlin Film Festival in the hands of publicity moguls who

use the fact that "he gets tired" to conclude interviews more efficiently than would be possible if their prize was not in a wheelchair. Kovic looks irritated and carries on talking with animation.

With him is the close friend and fellow veteran who lifted him onto the helicopter the day he was injured. Bruce Mangan sits wordlessly by him, clearly ill at ease in the artificial surroundings of the film world, a reminder of those veterans who have not had the opportunity to realise their personal catharsis in public.

His awkwardness is painful in a way that Kovic's speeches and recollections fail to be, and make Kovic's oft-repeated statements about the power of the human spirit triumphing over adversity seem a little glib.

Since his first appearance as an anti-war protestor on the floor of the 1972 Republican Convention, where he was arrested, Kovic has become a leading Democrat campaigner and intends to stand in the Californian elections later this year against the radical right-wing Congressman Robert Dornan.

His politics are an adroit mixture of the sentiments of the Seventies knitted into the changing world of the Nineties. The emergence of East-West relations gives Vietnam new significance for young Americans, he says, and then launches into a speech of prepared spontaneity. "The Bush Administration is the same type of apparatus which caused the Vietnam War. The same people who brought us Vietnam are still in power. The whole foreign policy must change as the world changes. We need *glasnost* and *perestroika* in America, too."

The invasion of Panama, Kovic says, was particularly disturbing for him. "As usual the American public was caught off its feet and came out in favour, but there were thousands of Vietnam veterans who felt that this government had learned nothing from the war."

His political opponents claim that he is a single-issue candidate standing on a platform of box-office success. He is rumoured to have visited several cinemas in California when the film came out there, sitting in the foyer in his wheelchair afterwards to gauge audience reaction and with it, one supposes, his electoral chances.

Without the film, Kovic's chances of victory in the Congressional election were marginal. Now Dornan is clearly rattled and makes frequent attacks on Kovic, describing him as unpatriotic.

The electorate in Orange County looks like being faced with a nostalgic contest between anti-war fervour and cold-war rhetoric. Kovic produces the standard Democratic eulogy of tolerance and non-intervention, but there are sudden flashes of well-directed venom. "It always seems to be the false patriots who attack the real heroes," he says. "The Congressman never served one day of combat in his life," he says, smiling sweetly.

His first visit in Berlin was, in best presidential style, to the Wall. He says: "Yesterday I was chipping away at the Wall and shaking hands with East German soldiers through the gaps. I am convinced that I represent the future of America more than the current pretenders."

His aim now is to harness patriotism for the Democratic cause. Whether the teenagers who flock to see Tom Cruise in the role will digest this political message as easily as he thinks is doubtful. But his opponents are already aware of the potential of a face in film, now turned to politics.

Born on the Fourth of July opens at the Empire, Leicester Square, London on March 2.

Putting a brave face on a changing world

As the walls of apartheid crumble, Gavin Bell talks to an Afrikaner who lives in hope of a peaceful South Africa for all races



'You shouldn't judge us by the extremists': farmer Hempius du Toit

The sun has yet to rise over the massive wall of the Helderberg Mountains, in South Africa's Cape province, and the vineyards below are bathed in a grey half-light as coloured farm labourers file into a storeroom and sit on two rows of benches.

Seated behind an old wooden desk is the *baas*, a stolid Afrikaner farmer, muscles bulging beneath a loose shirt and faded blue shorts, his feet bare. Before him is an open Bible, from which he reads in the guttural tones of his native language. "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches."

A labourer rises and leads the little congregation in prayer: "Look upon our government, Lord, and in our changing situation, grant them wisdom." The farmer gravely nods his approval.

Through the open door, the first rays of the dawn catch a white horse shaking its mane in a green field. A cock is startled into crowing wakefulness, and the mist begins to rise from a land of plenty.

The land belongs to the barefoot farmer, Pieter "Hempies" du Toit, aged 36, once a prop forward in the Springbok rugby team, and now the producer of *Alto Rouge*, a full-bodied dry red and one of South Africa's oldest estate wines.

He is devoted to the farm, established near Stellenbosch in the western Cape at the turn of the century, and handed down to him by his father, and he would resist fiercely any attempt to take it from him - but he ensures that his coloured (mixed race) workers, and above all their children, share its benefits.

Outwardly, Du Toit is the quintessential rural Afrikaner. Strong, independent and devout, powerfully influenced by the pioneering spirit of his forefathers. He is descended from the Huguenots, Protestants who fled religious persecution in France and settled in the Cape in 1688. Their language and customs disappeared, becoming part of the culture of Afrikanerdom which was growing away from its Dutch roots.

Today, in a suddenly changing and confusing world, the immutable truths of Du Toit's childhood have been swept aside by a tide of black nationalism. Apartheid is crumbling, and the supremacy of the Afrikaner is being relegated to a chapter of history.

But unlike others who cling defiantly to the illusion of "separate development", Du Toit is coming to terms with modern realities. In learning to live with Nelson Mandela, he has a start on many of his contemporaries, since he began questioning the old order long before presidents P. W. Botha and F. W. de Klerk began dismantling it.

The doubting process began when he was invited to add his considerable stature and skill to a national rugby team of young coloured players. As a child, the farm labourers had called him *klein baas* (little boss), and as he grew older he became *monner* (sir). "When I played for that team, the others called me by my first name. That was the first step. When you're in a team, everybody is equal and I realized I had no right to be called sir. That was a turning point in my life."

The next learning experience occurred during a Springbok tour of New Zealand. "I remember thinking what a great country it was, and how alike the people were to South Africans, pioneering people who had built up the land

from nothing. Then I looked at the Maoris, and what had happened to them, and thought of the blacks in my own country. I felt depressed."

His perception that something was fundamentally wrong in South African society crystallized into attempts to improve it, by enhancing the prospects of his workers' children. He provides interest-free loans for schoolbooks and uniforms, insists on quarterly reports from their headmaster to monitor their progress, and awards prizes to the best pupils.

With a labour force of 50 adults, he reckons that an equal number of children are on his farm at any given time. "I wasn't sure how many there were, but when I laid out on a Christmas party I sent out for

'Now that everything is changing, you have to educate people to adapt to the new ways. Whether you trim a vine or govern a country, you have to learn'

100 plates and found we were five short."

It works both ways. He and Naomi, his English-speaking wife, have three daughters and a son, all of whom are learning Xhosa, the dominant tribal language of the region, and are being taught to respect everyone, regardless of race.

Du Toit sees education as the key to South Africa surviving without conflict. "I think it is vitally important that we spend much more on black education. You can reason with educated people, but lack of education makes it difficult for everyone. Especially now that everything is changing, you have to educate people to adapt to the new ways. Knowledge is power. Whether you want to trim a vine or govern a country, you have to learn."

"I wish I could just press a button and have all the blacks educated. How else can we understand each other's needs and ambitions?"

These are extraordinary views from a member of a deeply conservative community with a tradition of paternal feudalism towards its employees, but Du Toit senses he is not alone.

"I think there are a lot of Afrikaners who share my views, although they might not admit it. You shouldn't judge us all by the extremists you see on television with their Boer flags and uniforms."

He admits there are limits to his liberalism, and says it will require time for both sides to adjust. Black majority rule overnight would, he

says, be a disaster for everybody. "If the blacks were capable of governing the country tomorrow to Western standards, no problems pal, we could all live a happy life. But if they mess it up, no ways. The problem is they have never had the chance to govern. You can't just abolish a white government and replace it with a black one."

"Look, there is serious conflict between the different tribes. I think you can use the white man as a stabilizing factor while we all get used to the idea of sharing power."

As a businessman, he firmly opposes the nationalization of key sectors of the economy, as advocated by the African National Congress. "There will be one hell of a war if they try to nationalize everything. The Afrikaners won't accept that, they'll go for their guns. I hate to say it, but if they want to come and just grab what I've built up, they will have to fight for it."

Afrikaner culture is another area in which he is not prepared to compromise. "It is important the language survives. It is an integral part of our life, of South Africa. Without it we lose our identity."

We move through a rose garden to the *steep* (veranda), for coffee. A pretty little blonde girl in a floral smock peeps shyly from a doorway. What would Du Toit do if he found himself in a *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?* situation when she grows up?

He pauses for a long time. "That's a tough one. Coloureds are much like white people, but blacks are a little bit different. Of course it would worry me, but I dare say I would get used to it in time and then ask myself why I ever bothered about it."

"The problem is the children. I know a coloured girl on a farm who had a child by a white man. He has her dark skin and his father's blonde hair, and the other kids at school torment the life out of him. I don't think South African society is ready to accept such kids."

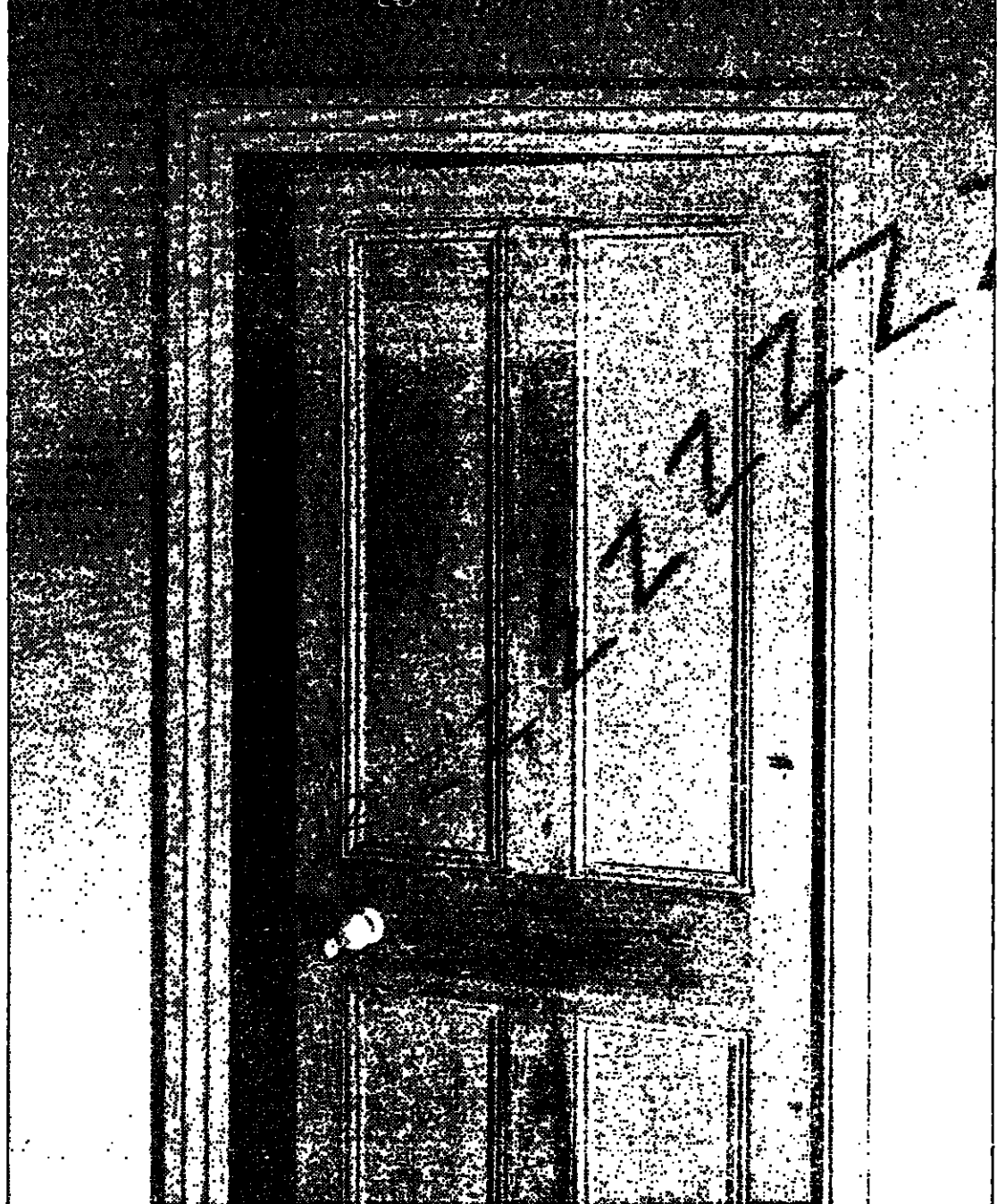
Mandela's release was a frightening experience for many Afrikaners, who had learnt to fear and loathe him as public enemy number one, but Du Toit was reassured by his moderation.

"He came across as a person with a lot of dignity, and if he is the type of man who can unite the blacks, I think a lot of whites will follow him. If he looks after my interests, if he cares for my feelings, I'll go with him all the way."

Du Toit feels it is essential to forget past injustices. "A lot of people suffered a lot of hurt under the old laws, but we've got to forget the past and get our act together. It's not going to be easy. We whites committed wrongs, and now we'll have to make sacrifices. The important thing is not to ruin everything with vengeance."

He has no time for the bigots of the far right. "I think they're going to be a millstone round the neck of our country," he says. "These people don't reason, they don't debate, they have their viewpoint and to hell with the rest. They don't represent the future."

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At last the twain shall meet ...

Thousands of European families, torn apart by war and revolution and stranded for decades on either side of the Iron Curtain, are now being reunited by the international Red Cross. Alan Franks reports

As eastern Europe has opened up, it has released the floodgates on an apparently endless swell of families separated by war or revolution and now seeking reunion after lifetimes of silence and bewilderment. Their searches, and the stories they unearth, are joyful, tragic and sometimes incredible. Occasionally they are almost too painful to conclude. These are the latest human chapters in a continent's long story of displacement.

Because of *glasnost*, and the turmoil to the west of the Soviet Union, the British Red Cross Society in London is reporting an enormous increase in the number of requests for information on long-lost relatives. Each year it handles about 3,000 inquiries from all over the world, and Sandra Singer, the director of its tracing service, estimates that the number concerning families from eastern Europe and the Soviet Union is 64 per cent up on previous years. Many involve the finding of some vital jigsaw piece in a family picture fragmented by the Second World War. Some go back much further — there is one, for example, from an 89-year-old Moscow man craving news of the siblings whom he saw regularly until "everything was interrupted by the October Revolution of 1917".

He believes that his brothers and sisters, all of whom were born in the Chinese town of Foochow and moved to England between 1905 and 1907, came to live in Clevedon, in Somerset. With poetic understatement, his letter, written in response to the last will of another of his sisters, says that "this historical event and limited international relations made us deaf and dumb for more than 70 years".

At the heart of the tracing

service's headquarters in London's Grosvenor Crescent is a row of filing cabinets in which almost a quarter of a million cases are card-indexed. It is an improbably small and anonymous resting place for matters of such turbulence, and it is the Red Cross's boast that it is updated to the most rigorous standards. A card lost, it reasons, is a person lost.

But the Red Cross knows that in laying the ghost of one tragedy, it might play midwife to some even more awesome event. "I remember the story of a girl who came from Austria," Singer says. "She had been born illegitimate during the war, and brought up by foster parents. She came to this country as an au pair, settled, and built a career in dress designing."

"By the time she approached us, she had grown obsessive about the need to find her mother, and had even gone through therapy. In a way, the search had become her life. We did manage to track down the mother, eventually, but, as I said to the daughter at the time, 'Now is the hard part. The search and the uncertainty may have been demanding enough, but now you have to accept as your mother this woman whom you have never known, and set about building a relationship with her.' Some time later she came back to me and said: 'You were right.'"

Some of the stories are beyond even the most fanciful fiction — such as the cases of the young conscripts who, convinced after the end of the war that their wives and small children had perished, went on to build new lives and marriages — only to discover decades later that their first partners were still alive.

The impulse to embark on such searches is often not only the result of an easing of political tension; it can also be quickened by the onset of old age, the vacuum of bereavement, or a



Reunited: (front row, left to right): Anna Kis, Erico Fletcher, Janos Toth (uncle), Sylvia and Maria Domotor (back): Karcsi Toth, Tibor Domotor, George Domotor, Arpad Domotor, Eva Shepherd, Laszlo Toth

promise made long ago to a close relative. One saga, concluded only months ago, offers one of the best insights into the scope of the Red Cross's free service.

In 1956, after the Hungarian uprising, a young couple named Domotor left the country to look for work, leaving their young children in the care of relatives.

The Domotors settled in Lancashire, got jobs, and had four more children, all of whom are now grown up. It had always been the parents' intention to return to Hungary, as the government there refused permission for the child-

ren to come to England. When the youngest of those born in England, a daughter named Erico, was only six months old, the father, distraught at the news that his wife had tuberculosis, committed suicide.

Precisely 12 months later, she died, two days before she was to have travelled to Hungary with her four English-born children.

Eventually the authorities in the UK decided it was in the children's best interests to remain here, so Erico, George, Eva, and Sylvia were fostered by a family in Derbyshire, and grew up knowing

almost nothing about their background.

Although the interest of the Red Cross was supposed to end when the children went into care, its involvement continued unofficially. Singer recalls that her predecessor made a point of asking her to hang on to that particular file. "She told me that one day those children would want to find their relatives in Hungary, and that file would mean we could help them."

And so it was. Early last year, Erico Fletcher, now 28 and a mother herself, called the Red

'Anyone could have told we were the same family from the way we looked, the way we spoke, the movements — everything'

Cross to ask how she should begin looking for her two Hungarian brothers and sister, and her two half-brothers, born to her mother by a first husband. Astonishingly, her Hungarian brother, Arpad, aged 37, had instituted a similar search himself, through the Red Cross in Hungary. It led to a euphoric moment of bureaucratic matching which Singer and her colleagues refer to as "a meeting of the cards".

The human meeting finally occurred last September, when the English side of the family went to the Hungarian town of Barabcs, where it found Arpad living in the house once occupied by their parents. Across the road was Tibor, at 35 the youngest of the Hungarians, and their aunt Anna, the dead mother's sister.

Laszlo and Karcsi, the two half-brothers, both in their forties, were just around the corner, and Maria, aged 37, the sister, lived 20 miles away. After such a separation, the distance hardly seemed great.

"It was a dream come true," Erico says. "There is no other way of describing it. There was a fantastic closeness, which we all felt the moment we met. There were absolutely no secrets; we all wanted to know everything."

"Anyone could have told we were all the same family from the way we looked, the way we spoke, the movements ... everything."

"The marvellous thing was that for all those years my brother George had been the only boy and, suddenly, there he was with four brothers, all of them as crazy as him."

Now Erico is learning to speak Hungarian, and intends to stay closely in touch with the "new" half of her family.

Not all the searches are brought

to such a happy conclusion. Some confirm the worst fears of the relatives, while others yield yet more uncertainty. This last category is perhaps the most poignant, as ageing victims of separation retain only their child's image of a 10-year-old sister across the chasm of half a century.

Yet the pieces on the lesser, family jigsaws have, like those on the greater national ones, fallen remarkably into place, tirelessly sifted and marshalled by the paid and voluntary workers in the Red Cross's county branches.

In Germany, where at the end of the Second World War one in four of the population was either seeking a relative or being sought, the Red Cross recently had immense success through its techniques for tracing the nameless.

These included the issuing of posters bearing a picture of the lost child, now an adult, together with a description of colouring and features, and the date and place where the child was found. The idea was that the child might, as a grown-up, resemble his lost relatives and so be recognized.

Thousands of such posters were put up in post offices, town halls and railway stations, and the method proved so effective that of the 294,000 inquiries all but 3,000 have been solved.

The searches continue, for although a thaw may be moving across eastern Europe, the past remains frozen for many of its citizens, the excavation hard, and the strata obscured by changed names, misprints and marriage. But if the Red Cross has its wish, those filing cabinets at Grosvenor Crescent will always be a memory bank, and never a morgue.

● The Red Cross tracing service is at 9 Grosvenor Crescent, London SW1X 7EJ (01 235 3454). All inquiries are treated as strictly confidential.

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TIMES DIARY

SHERIDAN MORLEY

On the verge of his 86th birthday, our greatest living actor is about to return to one of his most characteristic roles. Next month, at a studio in Amsterdam, Sir John Gielgud starts work on a Peter Greenaway film version of *The Tempest* which will at last preserve for posterity the finest Prospero of the century, albeit in a typically Greenaway kind of way, since many supporting characters have been stripped from the text, leaving Gielgud as both creator and star of the island fantasy.

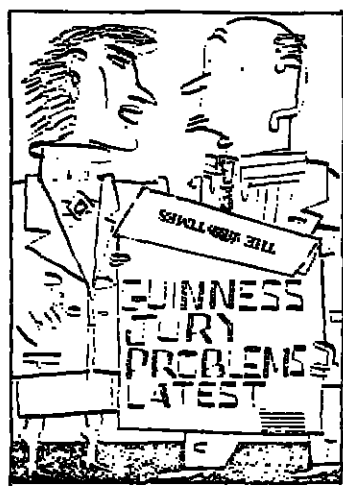
Gielgud's first Prospero was at the Old Vic 50 years ago; he played the role again for Peter Brook in a 1957 Stratford production which also did a sold-out season at Drury Lane (the last time Shakespeare was seen there) and then again in the Peter Hall revival which opened his National Theatre management at the Old Vic in 1974. Only now, after turning down the BBC television version and an earlier film, has he found in Greenaway the director he trusts to bring to the screen the most magical of all Shakespeare's late plays, and the one offering the most potent and moving of valedictories to the craft of acting.

In one of his first decisions, the arts supremo of Channel 4, the former critic Waldemar Januszczak, is to end the Wednesday night *Signals* series which, despite its patchy time of late, did a couple of weeks ago offer Roger Graef's superb study of Soviet artists persecuted by Stalin. Channel 4 cites the oft-heard "new programming" as the reason for axing the programme, but there is an equally familiar financial problem: the *Signals* producer, Andrew Holmes, feels that, to build on the experience of the last two seasons, he needs a larger budget at a time when the channel is facing an effective cut in its arts funding.

So Januszczak now has to find himself a new and still cheaper arts show which will need, as *Signals* did, at least a year or two to find its feet and a coherent style. Arts programmes do not come together overnight: some at the BBC have taken a decade to find their true form. Channel 4's dogmatic belief in all-change every couple of years means that no programme ever gets a chance to settle in before it is whisked away.

At a time when the theatrical news elsewhere is all of cutbacks and closures, from the Barbican through the Round House to the Leicester Haymarket, I can report rays of hope from Sloane Square. The Royal Court has managed to reallocate its still shamefully minimal resources to enable the studio Theatre Upstairs to be reopened after almost a year. Director Simon Curtis's opening production, in late April, promises to be immensely controversial: a double bill made up of the father-and-son letters from the Royal Court's earlier *Falkland Sound* coupled with *Gibraltar Strait*, a new drama-documentary about the killing of three IRA members by the SAS in March 1983 which led to the battles over the television film *Death on the Rock*. Working from original interviews here and in Gibraltar, Curtis and his actors intend to explore the events preceding and following the killings as a matter of "important public debate" — and one which the theatre is more free to discuss than television.

BARRY FANTONI



"If it's pressure of work, how about twelve estate agents?"

My prize-winning achievements have not, I am the first to admit, been of special note. True, my mother's Berkshire article contains a plaque commemorating my 14th place in a boxing competition at school in Melbourne where, as I recall, we fought mainly girls. In the intervening 40 years the only other award to come my way was a bad Third in Modern Languages from Oxford circa 1963.

Imagine my delight, therefore, at discovering that I seem to be one of the four finalists in the press division of this year's BRP arts-journalism awards. I may well be outclassed by the other three (Michael Ratcliffe, Mark Lawson and Norman Lebrecht), and maddeningly only two of us get our hands on any loot: £1,000 plus decanter for the winner, £250 for the runner-up. Hopes of a full tank of petrol for the other two of us seem as yet remote, though we do get to meet Gayle Hunnicutt at the Old Vic on March 22.

Woodrow Wyatt, writing on this page last Tuesday, leaned on a Media Monitoring Unit report to suggest that Radio 4's *Today* programme is systematically biased. The essential difficulty with the report and with Lord Wyatt's article is that they regard as improper what we consider to be reasonable journalistic practice for a broadcaster: they condemn the BBC for failing to do something we are not actually trying to do.

It is perfectly proper, in our view, to feature an item explaining the opposition to a particular government measure such as the community charge — provided always that at some early moment the Government is given an opportunity to respond. It is also right to subject that response to searching but courteous scrutiny. The report omits the inconvenient fact that, in the fortnight in question, government ministers appeared on *Today* on 14 occasions.

Any analysis of a body of journalism which sets out from a particular perspective to discover whether its sectional viewpoint is on occasion missing or under-recognized is destined to

John Birt replies to Woodrow Wyatt's attack on *Today*

Unswayed by personal view

find what it seeks. The analyses from the left were as prone to this in the Seventies as those that followed from the right in the Eighties — and now seemingly the Nineties.

Editors in broadcasting do not decide to cover items on the grounds that they are either helpful or unhelpful to government or to anyone else. Rather, with advice from specialist correspondents, they try to determine, day by day, what is most important in the world — what decisions or events have the greatest consequence.

The MMU report is testy about a discussion on *Today* between a Conservative MP opposed to immigration from Hong Kong and a member of the Hong Kong Legislative Council arguing for it. Both were opposed to different aspects of government policy. But only firebrand government loyalists would see a

discussion hinged on such an issue as a plot. More important, the report fails to note that the Foreign Secretary appeared on the programme three days before and the Home Secretary the day after to discuss the same issue.

Governments of all kinds tend to hold the initiative; and a radical government like Mrs Thatcher's inevitably has an even larger impact than normal on the domestic news agenda. It is unavoidable that what any government proposes and does, will — and should — receive a full share of coverage. So it is not surprising — and in our view it is reasonable — that contentious government policies should feature heavily on *Today*'s domestic agenda. Differing opinions of all shades should be aired, of course, and alternative policies featured. These too should be tested — something we recognize we need to do more vigorously,

especially as another election approaches. *Today*'s tough-minded scrutiny of Labour's alternative to the community charge was a recent case in point of effective journalism.

The BBC aspires keenly to the concept of impartiality in all its programmes. What the concept of impartiality means in contemporary terms has been widely discussed within the BBC in recent years and has been reinforced by new guidelines, which set out our policy at length. It is accepted within the BBC that we must be a pluralist institution, committed to giving space to all significant viewpoints. But impartiality should not be confused with balance. On a programme like *Today*, an impartial approach means that the programme should explore, in the 100 items a week it carries, the full range of current issues and concerns at home and

abroad; and that it should give all involved an opportunity over time to explain their views and to be tested with equal rigour about them. In the cut-and-thrust of a given day this is necessarily an imperfect process — and we constantly seek to improve our performance; but we have no doubt that over a period all significant views receive a full airing.

This is the task we ask our producers and presenters to perform, putting their own private political convictions to one side in the process. In his list of questions to the BBC Lord Wyatt demanded to know how the staff on *Today* had voted in the last election and how they intend to vote in the next; what political parties and clubs, if any, they had belonged to at university; and of which political parties they had been members since the age of 23.

He adduces the sympathies of one of *Today*'s presenters from his c.v. — a hazardous endeavour, as Woodrow Wyatt's own career amply demonstrates. Unlike Lord Wyatt, the BBC does not want to know what these private convictions are. We judge our staff by their performance and the skill with which they carry out their task.

In the case of the *Today* programme, we know that not every minute of the 14 hours broadcast a week is perfect — *Today* is a live programme compiled around the world amid the hurly-burly of developing news events — but we do believe that taken as a whole, the programme carries out its task with distinction.

Its audience — which is surely more sophisticated and less glib than Lord Wyatt thinks — seems to agree. More than six million listen every day, 15 per cent more than a year ago. The levels of appreciation recorded by audience research have never been higher. It is Lord Wyatt and the MMU that seem to be out of step.

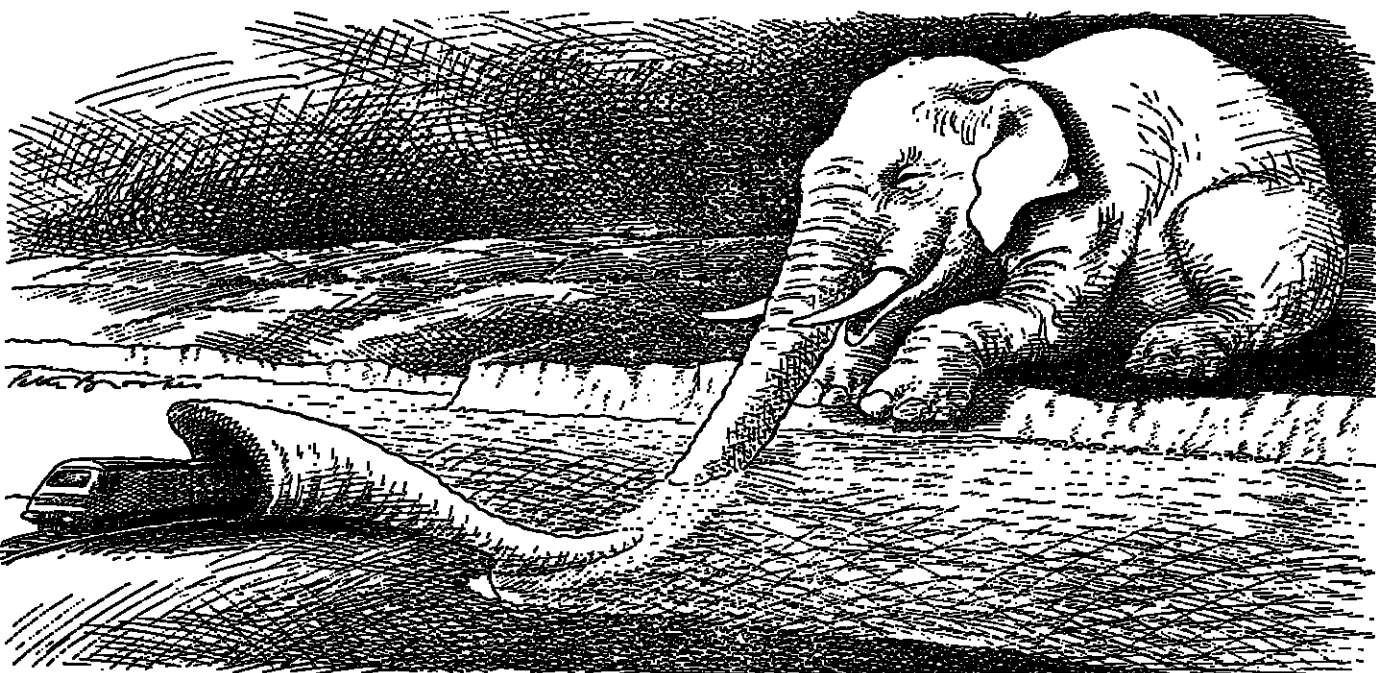
The author is deputy director-general of the BBC in charge of journalistic output.

Banks going down the drain

A couple of months ago, after murmuring *en passant* that the Channel Tunnel would never be finished, I got a letter from a concerned reader, asking if I had any special information leading me to that conclusion. Certainly I had no clairvoyant inkling of the latest imbroglio involving Mr Alastair Morton, the contractors, the banks and a matter of £400 million in emergency funding; nor of the photographic evidence supplied by our tabloid relation across the way that quite a few tunnellers seem to regard their workplace primarily as a quiet warm spot for a good night's kip, though both could easily have been predicted.

It was, though, the banks — specifically the headline "Banks too deep in tunnel to go back" — which had set me musing that the celebrated hole in the ground is destined never to be more than that. It is not all that long since the banks were shelling out hundreds of millions as write-off money for the unrecoverable but stupendous sums they had lent so gaily to the Third World. You will remember that the millions were piled up so high not only because of the size of the loans but because, when the recipients had wasted or stolen all the spondulicks and could not pay the interest, the banks — no less gaily — lent them money to do so, and when that had gone the same way, those hard-headed bankers shelled out enough for them to pay the interest on the interest. And when that melted away in turn...

Eventually, of course, the roof fell in. After picking the plaster out of their hair, they came up with the excuses. These amounted to the very thought which inspired the tunnel headline, and for that matter Macbeth: "I am in blood Stepped in so far, that should I wade no more, Returning were as tedious as go o'er." And you must admit that what Macbeth had done — regicide, a murder or two, and consorting with witches — was



trivial compared to the limitless folly of the bankers.

The "deal" recently concluded among the tunnel's promoters, the contractors and the banks is a thing of shreds and patches; it postpones real decisions in the hope that something better might turn up. (Perhaps they hope to find a field of diamonds halfway across.) The £400 million which the banks are now stumping up will keep the show on the road for a couple of months, by which time they hope to have found the Philosopher's Stone. But my guess is that they will find nothing but a large number of nougats.

The banks have been tossing the numbers about in a most careless manner; the estimated cost of the monstrous thing had swollen month by month until it had reached £6 billion, and plainly it was going to continue its dropical career, so a neat solution was devised. They announced that "the final cost of all work will be £7.2 billion". Before I go on, let me put my mouth where their money is. I

Bernard Levin marshals figures to back his argument that the Channel tunnel is doomed to be a multi-billion white elephant

now prophesy that before the target date of June 1993 (which is likely to be September 1996), the "final cost of all work" will be at least £9.5 billion. They babble about cutting the tunnel's "supervision overheads" by 25 per cent (I do hope this won't mean that a quarter of the tunnel will collapse for want of supervision), of using more powerful engines for the trains to compensate for the fact that more cost-cutting has led to reducing the speed of them, of "capping" the contractors' payment for the equipment at £60 million, despite the fact that the contractors' budget speaks of £73 million (and will in the end probably turn out to be £107

million), of — for all I know — reducing the amount of ham in the workers' lunch sandwiches. It will avail them nothing, even if they make redundant Mr Tony Ridley (who finally resigned from London Underground in the wake of the King's Cross disaster report, but has fetched up as a big wheel in the tunnel project) and use the savings to tempt me not to spread the rumour that the tunnel journey will be by the celebrated Advanced Passenger Train.

Now for some wild arithmetic. Suppose that the tunnel is somehow finished, that the total cost is no more than the £7.2 billion predicted, that it is a huge success with the travelling pub-

lic. Let us suppose further that no fewer than 12 trains run every day, with 1,000 seats taken in every one. Let us guess that the fare will be £60, including full charge for children, however young. These suppositions are, of course, preposterously over-generous, but let us forget that. Ready?

Twelve trains at 1,000 passengers a train makes 12,000 passengers. Twelve thousand passengers at £60 a head makes £720,000 revenue a day, getting on for £265 million a year. Ladies and gentlemen: the tunnel will be in profit roughly 27 years after its completion, provided that the entire running operation from beginning to end costs nothing whatever. And I have not added the interest charges from the 208 banks which are putting up the money. If you want to be realistic (and the people who are backing the tunnel certainly don't), to judge from their goings-on, you can think of the tunnel in profit about a century from now. Now you will understand why

the headline set me thinking. It is all very well to say that the banks will pull the rug out sooner or later; you might have said they would do the same over the Third World debts, but did they? What will stop them saying, as the debts rise into the stratosphere while simultaneously receding towards a distant horizon, "We can't stop now — we have put too much in already?"

There is no sign that any banker has ever heard of that basic military principle: Never reinforce failure. On the contrary, they behave as though the maxim runs "If you reinforce failure often enough, it might turn into success — you never know."

"Banks too deep in tunnel to go back." It was announced some time ago that certain huge machines, used for the digging or shoring, were so enormous that they could not be dismantled and brought up when their work was done: they were to be buried in the tunnel itself. That seems to me to sum up the whole crazy (and, in any case, unnecessary) project. If it doesn't seem so to you, try this for an alternative.

Soon after the Second World War, the British government decided to commemorate the centenary of the 1851 Exhibition, with a Festival of Britain. The centrepiece of the whole enterprise was the huge exhibition on the South Bank (the Royal Festival Hall is the only surviving part of the project). There were innumerable hold-ups in the construction — strikes, bad weather, faulty equipment — and civil servants constantly brought more bad news to the then Minister of Works, Richard Stokes.

One day, such a messenger of misfortune came to him and said "I'm sorry, Minister, but there is another stoppage on the South Bank". Wearily, Stokes asked the reason. "It's a shortage of shovels," Stokes took thought; then "Oh well," he said, "tell the men they'll have to lean on one another."

Why religions should fight their own fight

Raymond Plant warns of the divisive inequity of special privileges

Since writing an article for *The Times* defending Salman Rushdie, I have had long talks with individuals and groups deeply offended by *The Satanic Verses*. One idea to have emerged in discussions on the wider issues is that religious communities should be given special protection by the state.

Although this argument is usually put in terms of extending the blasphemy laws, at least one meeting which I attended included a claim by both Muslim and Jewish representatives that there should be a law prohibiting libel of religious groups.

But how far is special protection for religious groups compatible with the general moral and political culture of a liberal society? It is wrong to believe that liberalism is in principle opposed to group rights; certainly late 19th-century social liberalism in Britain conceded a special place for groups, together with some legal privileges. However, I think it would be a major error for a government in a liberal society to go any further

in recognizing the special claims of religious groups.

There is a difference between protecting people in terms of race or gender because these are characteristics which are not chosen. What makes religion of special significance is that it is based on faith and commitment. I do not want to deny that religious belief plays a crucial role in forming individual and communal identity. Indeed, I know in my own case the tremendous influence which Anglicanism has had on my mind and development. However, there seems to be a big gulf between recognizing this fact and saying that religious groups should be protected by law.

We should try to avoid what might be termed moral corporatism, the allocation of protected status to particular groups, when those groups are at bottom based upon commitment and consent.

The first problem is the severely practical one of recognition. What are to be the criteria for religious groups to qualify? Obvious marginal cases spring to mind: Freemasonry, Rastafarianism, Scientology. It might be argued that we should look to current legal practice rather than to abstract definitions of religion, and that the obvious place to look is charity law. However, the current law on this is obscure.

For example, in 1949 the courts found that a donation to a Roman Catholic convent was not a charitable gift because there was no element of public benefit; whereas in 1981, a gift to the Exclusive Brethren was found to be charitable. Equally, as the Law Commission argued, if we were to agree a definition of religion, it might well include groups such as Buddhists, who do not desire legal protection.

There are other difficulties too. In the *Gay News* trial, the judge, Sir Alan King-Hamilton, stated that blasphemous libel

applies only to the Christian religion and sacred subjects. If the law were extended to other religions, what would constitute a sacred subject? Sacred subjects, such as the Eucharist in Christianity, are significant only to the religion concerned. Does this mean that Rastafarian dreadlocks and *ganja*, for example, would be regarded as sacred? On the other hand, the average man, on whose judgement we might have to rely, may not recognize the importance of a sacred subject within a religion.

Another problem arises. An individual right leaves a person at liberty to claim his right or to forgo its exercise, whereas group rights can be claimed only by a collective decision-making process. Somehow, the group has to decide to claim that a right has been infringed and that a remedy should be sought. This intrinsic feature of group rights has highly undesirable results since it is inherently paternalistic. Some

authority within the group has to decide on behalf of the whole that the group has been offended, and other members of the group may have little say in how that judgement is reached.

Since most religious groups are organized hierarchically, it is likely to be those at the top who decide whether their rights have been infringed. Recognition of group rights would therefore encourage the growth of such hierarchies and increase their power.

The Government has deployed a similar argument for the removal of legal privileges from trade unions, and to insist upon making them democratic. The argument against those seeking to extend privileges to religious groups is much the same: those at the top of the hierarchy would be able to use their new-found privileges to increase their status and power within the group. Just as we should not try to control the

economy by conceding special privileges to elites — whether in business or the unions — so we should not try to control the moral order by granting special immunities to religions.

A liberal society must treat all citizens with equal concern and respect. Quite apart from the objections I have already raised, it follows that to grant legal privileges to certain groups is to deny them to other citizens outside those groups.

Muslims have legitimate cause for complaint because they are treated less favourably than Christians, but this inequality could be resolved by removing the law of blasphemy altogether. Those Christians who believe that would be a retrograde step might ponder the Passion of Jesus as recorded by St Matthew. He died convicted of blasphemy, a charge made by a religious elite claiming to speak for the whole of the community which had supposedly been offended by the blasphemy.

The author is Professor of Politics at Southampton University.

Given something to beef about



CLEMENT FREUD

shall let you know: watch this space. Perhaps those days are over; any time now we shall get a *Bad Food Guide*, perhaps an annual Dishonours List.

I once went to Minsky's. It was

a Sunday afternoon in spring and I felt nostalgic about The Stage Bar on Broadway where you could order a Joe Di Maggio rye, easy on the relish, and all around you sat serious Runyon-esque characters on the fringe of show business, also boxers and tourists dedicated to the business of overeating. At The Stage, the soup was chicken soup — made lazily by overcooking plump hens in water and onion and salt, larding off some of the fat for the chicken liver with egg, throwing into the strained broth a handful of barley which languished therein for an hour before being decanted on your plate. Minsky's in Regent's Park served soup from

a tin at the wrong temperature — like lukewarm. At The Stage a Reuben sandwich is half a dozen thin slices of corned beef and a layer of aromatic sauerkraut on black bread with a small plastic bucket of dill pickles, chilis and best black olives. Minsky's said sandwiches would be 20 minutes and sold me a Pickle Barrel for £1.40: five slices of Hungarian innard cucumber on a saucer.

I recently discovered the brilliant Whiteley's complex in Bayswater: many excellent shops including Marks & Spencer, a two-storey bookstore and a whisky emporium selling 100 different malts, bourbons, ryas and blends. There are 10 comfort-

able, non-smoking cinemas with a computerized booking system and courteous usherettes, also half a dozen good eating places, of which Poon's is not one; arrogant, inefficient Chinese staff; slow, bad service; one set of chopsticks between two; water came after the fifth request; the Szechuan duck was fat and soggy where it should have been crisp; the pancakes were thick and unhot.

Should one write about the inadvisability of going there? It would not do Poon's a jot of harm — on the contrary. "This is the place that Clement Freud did not like" used to attract customers as certainly as a Michelin star. If you must go, drink the Cloudy Bay Chardonnay, even though they try to serve it at room temperature and pour it through the shards of foil they cannot be bothered to remove when they draw the cork.

The *Marlybone Times*, which is pushed through our letter box each month, is a 32-page publication printed on high-quality paper containing around 30 per cent advertising, 20 per cent hagiographies and good works, much of the rest what used to be known as "feartastic journalism". This month's leader explains that the *MT* is dedicated to preserving all that is good in the area — then castigates local politicians (no party emerges with honour), touches on how to make money on the stock market and moves smoothly to Appetisers, written by one John McGregor Morris, whose name appears in the Contents column at the front of the mag under the heading Sales Representatives.

Appetisers in the February issue assesses Minsky's New York Deli and Restaurant — of which he writes: "We are forced

هكذا من الأصل



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

A NEW TIME OF TROUBLES

Last month Lithuania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, this month Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kirghizia... The mass demonstrations, the demands for national independence and the outbreaks of communal violence in the Soviet Union seem to go on endlessly. Behind them all looms the relentless deterioration in the economy, with food, clothes, and consumer goods ever scarcer and more expensive. Public gloom and resentment increase, together with the feeling that Gorbachev has lost control, and that a new Time of Troubles is approaching.

Western observers usually treat the national and economic problems as if they were separate, but economic dissatisfaction is one of the main reasons for the drive towards national secession. Most non-Russians associate the centrally planned economy with Russian imperialism and with large smoke-belching factories manned by uncouth Russian workers who neither know nor care about the indigenous way of life.

Besides, any resolute move towards a market economy is bound to involve painful sacrifices, as the example of Poland shows, the population is more likely to accept them from a properly elected government of their own countrymen than by dictate from Moscow. The market economy requires political pluralism of the kind the Communist Party now seems prepared to sanction; but such pluralism is inconceivable without a far-reaching decentralization of the Soviet Union, granting at least autonomy to the Union Republics.

For all these reasons it is disappointing that the recently published Communist Party platform, while it acknowledges that individual Republics may wish to leave the Union, takes a grudging attitude towards the prospect. This weekend Pravda rubbed in the point by blaming national agitation on "extremists" and warning of a crackdown if civil strife persists.

Instead of reacting defensively and piecemeal to national conflicts, it would make sense for Mr Gorbachev to take the initiative by calling a constitutional conference of representatives of the Supreme Soviet of each Union Republic. He could invite each Repub-

lic to submit proposals for its own future constitutional status, up to and including complete secession. Those proposals would have to include provisions for the protection of minority ethnic rights. The conference could then renegotiate the 1922 treaty which originally created the Union, while also working out the mechanism of secession for those Republics which desired it.

The three Baltic Republics, Moldavia, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan would probably all secede. The Central Asian Republics might choose to stay within the Union but set up their own autonomous confederation. The attitude of Ukraine is uncertain. At the moment it is a divided republic, with the West (annexed only in 1939) bitterly anti-Russian, the East rather pro-Russian, and the central regions ambivalent. In view of its agricultural and industrial wealth, its decision would be awaited with anxiety. Even without it, though, Russia would be the largest nation in Europe, with abundant natural resources and a relatively well-trained workforce. Some Russian nationalists now believe it could develop those resources more effectively without the burden of empire.

The result of a freely negotiated arrangement could be that Russia (whether or not it included Ukraine and Belorussia) would be surrounded by a ring of reasonably friendly independent states. Some of them would be ready to conclude a military alliance (an independent Armenia would find the world a dangerous place) and to take up mutually advantageous commercial ties. Perhaps symbolic links of some kind might remain, on the model of the British Commonwealth, as Andrei Sakharov used to suggest.

If, however, the Soviet government persists in imposing a solution to the national problem from the centre, then the break-up of the Union will take place anyway, but it will be complicated and violent, and the successor states are likely to be hostile towards the rump Soviet Russia. Much better, surely, to create a framework in which the men of peace can hope to gain the upper hand over the men of violence. That is also the only way in which the economic problems can ever be solved.

THE RIGHT TO MANAGE

The latest row to afflict the Channel Tunnel project is reminiscent of those great debates of the early eighties over the "right to manage". On the one hand there were the trades unions, on the other the employers: between them a wide and deep chasm.

The same can be said today of the Channel Tunnel, although here it is not the trades unions who are asking to set the pace without taking the ultimate responsibility, but the consortium of contractors employed to build the tunnel and its associated infrastructure. The consortium, Trans Manche Link (TML), is demanding management changes at its client Eurotunnel, changes which Eurotunnel's board is unwilling to accept. Until the two sides agree over the management of Eurotunnel, the banks putting up the funds will advance no more money. Eurotunnel has just £40 million in hand, and was ordered on Friday to pay TML £62 million.

We have seen the project brought to the brink several times before. Indeed, it was on the point of collapse when Mr Alastair Morton was brought in as co-chairman to encourage the banks and financial institutions to finance the world's largest privately funded civil engineering project. Just before last Christmas, Eurotunnel was again on the point of running out of money because it was at loggerheads with TML over who would pay for cost overruns, and the banks could not put up more funds until some sort of agreement was reached. In the end, some £380 million of disputed bills were sent to arbitration.

All the rows seem to centre on Mr Morton, and it is pertinent to ask whether there is a fundamental problem with his style of management, or whether the problems would gravitate to the chief executive's desk whoever sat behind it. It is more the latter than the former.

NO CHANGE IN TOKYO

Political stability has undoubtedly been one of the hallmarks of Japan's modern success story. Nevertheless, by their warm endorsement of continued governance by the Liberal Democrats, with minimal participation by opposition parties, Japanese voters have failed to seize the best chance offered to them since the Second World War of bringing about a reform of the country's political system.

Few would dispute that the Japanese version of democracy has in general served the country well through its decades of rapid development since the Tokyo Olympics of 1964. Equally, however, many today feel that the speed of its economic development left the body politic gasping for breath a long time ago.

The Recruit "shares for political favours" scandal directed a bright light on the methods by which, under the Japanese system, politicians must raise money. The affair demonstrated that many Japanese politicians depend for their funding on insider trading tips in a manner which in any western country would rapidly put most of the ruling party behind bars. More importantly, it means that politicians must constantly look to their sources of funding in making their decisions. Another consequence is that the important international issues facing Japan as the world's newest economic super-power get scant attention at home. This weekend's election was an culmination of a campaign marked by an almost total lack of interest in the reform of the political system — an issue which had been a major focus of political and journalistic attention only last year.

It is hard to believe now that as recently as last summer, some commentators saw some sort of coalition as the only way in which the LDP could maintain its hold on power. By this time this morning it seemed clear that such a party would have no need of such an

arrangement, and that politicians associated with the Recruit scandal returned to power over the weekend were taking their re-election as vindication of their position. The signs from Tokyo are that it is politics as usual.

That is depressing news, because both the electorate and the politicians deserved better — the electorate because it is time that they were given the chance to elect a government that would do more than buy its way into power. The requirement is for an administration that will respond imaginatively not only to the problems of ordinary people who have worked so hard to make Japan the extraordinary phenomenon it is today but also to the problems of a bulging foreign trade surplus. Such a government could tackle the problems of living conditions by opening up more land for housing. It would also address the country's trade problems with the rest of the world by allowing a truly open economy based on reciprocal trade.

So far as the politicians are concerned, they deserve a system of funding which allows them to spend less time thinking about how to finance the next election and more on how to identify and realize a new role for Japan in the world. The underlying strength of popular sentiment for change could be seen last year at the height of the Recruit affair. It appeared then that not only women but other elements of society would help to balance the overpowering role of big business and the bureaucracy in choosing the next Japanese government.

The fact that that has not happened is unfortunate for Japan's interlocutors, who now seem set to deal with unchanged faces and policies at the top of the ruling party. The challenge facing Mr Kaifu or his successor is to demonstrate that despite appearances, some things really have changed.

Putting squeeze on the BBC

From the General Secretary of the Writers' Guild of Great Britain
Sir, The need for the BBC to cut costs by some £75 million a year, including four-figure job losses and the scrapping of a whole orchestra (report, January 27), is a matter of considerable concern to the viewing and listening public.

This necessity cannot but be associated with the Government's boast in the White Paper on broadcasting that it was pushing the BBC toward accepting changes in funding by limiting increases in the licence fee to the retail price index. It comments that "inflation in the broadcasting industry has run ahead of RPI" and that "the national base figure on which the 1988 licence fee was calculated represented less than the actual level of spending for which the BBC had budgeted".

The television licence fee (it should be called the television and radio licence fee since it pays for both, however collected) is not a Government subsidy for public service broadcasting to be played about with for political purposes. It is a contract between the BBC and the viewing and listening public for the provision of quality programming in both radio and television over a whole range of information, culture, and entertainment.

For the Government to squeeze the BBC in this manner pre-empt the discussion that will have to take place on BBC funding before the present charter ends in 1996. This is a discussion in which the viewing and listening public must be fully represented.

The viewing and listening public will also have to make sure, meanwhile, that if cuts do have to be made, radio will not suffer disproportionately because television is the more glamourised and publicised medium.

Yours sincerely,
WALTER J. JEFFREY,
General Secretary,
The Writers' Guild of Great Britain,
430 Edgware Road, W2,
Edgware 14.

Religion on television

From the Roman Catholic Bishop of Portsmouth

Sir, I write in my capacity as Chairman of the Committee for Communications of the Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, in response to your report (February 12, later editions) of opposition by Miss Emma Nicholson, MP, to moves to have Christian programmes given statutory protection in the Broadcasting Bill.

Our view is that protection should be given to religious, as distinct from purely Christian, programming as part of a diverse, quality broadcasting system. This is also the policy of the Central Religious Advisory Committee, representative of all faiths, of which I am a member.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTIAN,
Bishop's House,
Edinburgh Road,
Portsmouth, Hampshire,
February 14.

Museum charges

From Sir Philip Goodhart, MP for Beckenham (Conservative)

Sir, The recent report by the Select Committee on Education makes it plain that the introduction of compulsory charges for admission to museums is usually followed by a significant, but temporary, fall in attendance, and there can be no doubt that the decision to impose charges often has a traumatic effect on staff and trustees.

The Government should now encourage other museums and galleries to adopt charges by offering to match, on a pound for pound basis, money raised by admission charges during a transitional period of three to five years.

Trustees would then have a positive inducement to take this difficult step. The scheme could apply to national museums, such as the Science Museum, which has already adopted the policy which the Government supports. The publication of the select committee report should encourage the Government to back those museums which adopt the Government's favourite policy of increased self-reliance with transitional help.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP GOODHART,
House of Commons,
February 8.

Fax, but no fax

From Mr Douglas R. Pinyoun

Sir, On checking my fax machine this morning I was disgusted to find that during the night a commercial firm had tied up my fax line, worn out my machine a little, and stolen some paper in order to write me a piece of junk mail — the subject of which was a computer program they offered which would, if fitted to my computer, allow me to similarly abuse up to 350 other firms' machines each night.

Is there no law in force which could prevent this pernicious and dishonest practice from spreading from the USA, where it is already causing outrage? If there isn't, there should be.

Yours faithfully,
D. R. PINYOUN,
21 St Matthew's Road,
Cape Hill, Warley, Birmingham,
February 6.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Needful alliance on archaeology

From Mr Richard Hughes

Sir, It comes as a great surprise to my company that the Department of the Environment, through English Heritage, is about to issue a document concerning archaeology and development planning (report, February 5). May I ask whether there has been consultation with the development industry (including the client and architect-engineer-contractor) and if not, why not?

This document could lead to serious consequences for the way redevelopment sites may be engineered. These would include restrictions on standard and innovative basement and foundation construction techniques, while seeking more in-situ retention of soft, archaeologically-rich soil deposits in a changed environment. For example, who will take legal responsibility for long-term monitoring and for materials which start decaying?

Having now had some 30 major and properly funded archaeological excavations on our London sites alone, especially in the City, and having an excellent working relationship with the Museum of London, we have strong views that perhaps should be taken into account by the Department of the Environment. We are not aware that any of our clients have been asked to aid this DoE initiative.

We don't wish this relationship with the museum to suffer by having to work with lots of under-funded and under-skilled archaeological groups who see potential "rich pickings" in London, but

with no long-term accountability and commitment to the archaeological heritage of London.

Cheapsness of excavation is only one of many factors that we take into account when assessing for our clients the appropriate level of archaeological input. For example, how excavations integrate with the complex engineering technology that London sites now demand is of paramount importance. For this the archaeologist must be thoroughly versed in engineering processes and the engineers' "language". We cannot afford to allow over-cheap excavations to increase risks of delay and we insist upon the highest of site safety levels.

The Museum of London have always provided a clear presentation of their aims, methods, and short and long-term goals. Their site works, and subsequent analysis and publication, have been of the highest professional quality which we and clients have continually benefited from. On many occasions their research has aided and improved our engineering design works.

English Heritage clearly have a useful role in the pursuance of excellence in archaeology and have a range of skills to offer, but their proposed actions in London are not at all clear.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD HUGHES
(Consultant archaeologist),
Ove Arup & Partners
(Consulting engineers),
13 Fitzroy Street, W1,
February 15.

Future of Europe

From Professor Geoffrey Lee Williams

Sir, Your contention ("Towards a new entente?", February 13) that Britain will always require allies in whatever structure of European defence emerges in the future raises a number of salient issues. Clearly you are right to stress the historic link between London and Paris at the strategic level. This has never been an easy one to sustain in the past because of differing perceptions of the threat to national interests.

There is evidence to suggest that in present circumstances the French have a clearer view of what purpose European defence co-operation should serve than is the case in London, where policy appears to be caught in a strategic time warp dangerously close to a self-defeating posture.

The logic of French policy is clear: they are attempting to maintain European defence co-operation right across the board in order to prevent West Germany breaking the post-war diplomatic settlement by weakening Nato and economically dominating the European Community.

The French want — with British

support — to prevent the de-nuclearization of Europe, which would reduce Europe to a subordinate position vis-à-vis the super-powers, and leave France and Britain exposed to a neutral and, possibly, reunified Germany based on a semi-armed or totally armed nation.

The assumption that French concerns warrant a higher place in the Nato agenda and the formulation of British policy in the post-INF (Intermediate Nuclear Forces) environment surely provides a good starting point for those seeking a more credible structure for European defence. Although we may be reluctant to admit it, the French, as you rightly suggest, have become crucial allies.

The intuitive fear that a reunited Germany will fall prey to the triumph of anti-nuclear pacifism may be as simplistic as the opposite assumption that it will be motivated by the endless pursuit of irredentist demands to the East. But who really knows? Common sense dictates closer Anglo-French co-operation in the defence field.

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY LEE WILLIAMS,
Instep Cambridge,
9 Warkworth Street,
Cambridge,
February 14.

Taxation of couples

From Mr David Lindsay

Sir, Having studied some of the Revenue's recent literature, it would appear that many married couples entitled to an age allowance would benefit from a division of their income against the grain of their marriage vow to share equally.

For example, a division of £11,400 to the husband (if 65 or over), with the balance to the wife, would appear best for many couples, but as tax rates and bands change, so the optimum division will change, to the confusion, irritation, and expense of many taxpayers.

Scouts and girls

From Adam Smith

Sir, I am writing about the recent decision by the Scout Association (report, February 9) that girls may be permitted to join Scouts or Cubs. I am a Scout, my eight-year-old brother is a Cub, and my six-year-old brother is a Beaver, so my three-year-old brother is keen too!

I do not think it is right to let the girls join Scouts because sometimes boys like to be without the girls for the rest of the week to be with the girls.

Over the last week I have asked my friends to sign a petition against girls joining Scouts. Forty per cent of the girls signed it and all of the boys agreed to sign it! I also see no reason that girls should join Scouts because they can do all the activities we do at Scouts in Guides.

If all the girls join Scouts there will be nothing left of the Guides! Yours faithfully,
ADAM SMITH (age 10),
Orchard Cottage,
Great Comberton,
Pershore, Worcestershire,
February 16.

Private letters

From Mr Roger F. Kemp

Sir, There was a time when a communication contained in an envelope marked "private" was respected as being private. In later years the words "and confidential" were commonly used. Later still "strictly private and confidential" was used further to reinforce the injunction.

Now I receive letters marked "strictly private and confidential" — to be opened by the addressee only. Is there no longer such a simple thing as privacy?

Yours faithfully,
ROGER F. KEMP,
The Small House,
South Collingham,
Newark, Nottinghamshire.

Private patients and their bills

From Mrs Hilary Ruttle

Sir, In response to your report of February 3 urging private patients to question their bills, may I take up its recommendation to write to *The Times* in connection with private health care.

During a 23-day stay last year in a private hospital due to serious post-natal complications, I was accompanied by my (healthy) new-born son. For 67 units of infant-formula milk I am charged £75.71. At over £1 for a three-ounce unit, the hospital is charging many times over the retail price of 36-40 pence for an eight-ounce unit.

For staying in a single room with my son in my pram, his requisites and laundry cared for almost entirely by my family, I am charged £736 extra (£32 per night) for the baby, making the total accommodation charge equivalent to occupying a mother-and-child double room.

My insurers, who do not cover these charges, intervened on my behalf but to no avail and I am now threatened with legal action.

First, one cannot help but ask what effect such inflated charges have on premiums. Secondly, the issue highlights the arbitrary element in insurance cover. Had I accompanied my child (of up to nine years) I would receive a total refund from my insurers; breast-fed new-borns, integral parts of their mothers though they may be, are unfortunately not afforded the same privileges.

Yours faithfully,
HILARY RUTTLE,
43 Wolsey Avenue, SW19,
February 15.

Aids campaign

From Dr John Seale

Sir, The latest Aids advertising campaign (report, February 15) is an expensive means whereby the Government's chief medical officer and his advisers on Aids and venereology have evaded their public health responsibility.

Routine testing for the Aids virus (HIV) of all patients attending sexually-transmitted diseases clinics would stop the so-called heterosexual epidemic in its tracks in Britain before it got under way. Most doctors and the general public may be astonished to know that although testing for syphilis has been routine in the clinics for over 70 years, this is still not the case for HIV.

Why should HIV be granted the right to spread unchecked among heterosexual men, women, and their children? This is a high price to pay to satisfy the demands of powerful lobbies.

Yours truly,
JOHN SEALE,
Lister Hospital,
Chelsea Bridge Road, SW1.

Diplomatic ties

From Mr Peter A. Turnbull

Sir, As a recently retired president of the St Andrew's Society of the River Plate, I read with interest Alan Hamilton's forecast of the promotion (Diary, February 13) of a Scot to ambassadorial rank in Buenos Aires. The society has made great efforts to maintain the traditional Scottish cultural events originally established through the Scots kirk in Argentina, including nowadays a much watered-down version of the Caledonian Ball.

That the ball has lost its glitter is acknowledged. Sadly, inflation, and misdirected self-interest by a debilitated, infiltrated society have taken their toll. Regrettably there are fewer and fewer canny Scots to hold the purse strings of either Argentine state or society.

Yours faithfully,
PETER A. TURNBULL,
Westholme, Bilsby Street,
Farnwick, Gloucestershire,
February 13.

Unlikely skirl

From Mr D. G. M. Roberts, Feng Sir, Mrs Jack (February 9) asks for unlikely circumstances when bagpipes have been heard.

In November, 1975, along with some 40 other engineering consultants of varying nationalities, I attended briefings in Cairo and Alexandria prior to bidding for the design of major engineering facilities (the waste water project) to serve those cities.

Halfway through lunch at an otherwise deserted seaside restaurant in Alexandria, bagpipes were heard playing by an opportunistic Alexandrine wearing an ex-British Army greatcoat.

Yours truly,
D. GWILYM M. ROBERTS,
North America Farm,
Hundred Acre Lane,
Westminster, Hassocks,
Sussex,
February 10.

From Mrs R. A. Greenlees
Sir, When waiting to greet my husband upon return to port after lengthy deployments with the Royal Navy as an operations officer, my daughter and I have no difficulty in locating him; by sound before sight. He is on the bridge roof playing the bagpipes. For no disturbance of neighbours the Atlantic Ocean has much to commend it.
Yours faithfully,
ROSEMARY A. GREENLEES,
12 Beacon Down Avenue,
Beacon Park,
Plymouth, Devon,
February 10.

Cinéma du Paradis

From Dr Jacek Klinowski

Sir, Who played the dwarf in *La Kermesse Héroïque*? asks Bernard Levin (February 9). Delphin did, he was a dwarf and, I believe, he was also one of the three dwarfs who appeared in Marcel Carné's *Les Visiteurs du Soir*.

Levin also asks whether there has ever been a cinematic Golden Age to touch the years in France between roughly 1930 and 1945. Yes, there has: in Germany between 1920 and 1932. The directors: Fritz Lang, F. W. Murnau, Josef von Sternberg, G. W. Pabst, Erik Charell, and Max Ophüls. The films: *Der Müde Tod*, *Dr Mabius*, *The Last Laugh*, *Nibelungen*, *Metropolis*, *Pandora's Box*, *The Blue Angel*, *Kameradschaft*, *M*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *Congress Dances*, and *Liebelei*.

Yours sincerely,
JACEK KLINOWSKI,
University of Cambridge,
Department of Chemistry,
Lensfield Road, Cambridge,
February 12.

THE ARTS

Belting the bible

TELEVISION
Sheridan Morley

Last night's screening of Michael Palin's film *The Missionary* ("I want you to go out there, find out what people are doing, and stop them doing it") came as a splendidly farcical footnote to the opening of Julian Pettifer's new Saturday BBC 2 series, *Missionaries*. What Pettifer has realized is that real-life missionaries are now richer than at any time in history. In a supposedly Godless age, they run vast radio networks and control a multi-million pound industry far removed from the primitive Victorian struggles of their predecessors.

In the opening programme of what promises to be a riveting sequence, Pettifer contrasted the glossy modernity of American broadcasting networks like HCB (Hearst Christian Broadcasting) with wonderful footage of such early missionary movies as *Overland and Camelot Country*, which equated Christianity with clean white shirts and regular exercise. The "Have Christ Will Travel" business is now megareich, and Pettifer was up there in Ecuador with a radio station guided according to its owner by divine radar (though God, perhaps not being an authority on FM frequencies, had situated them on the wrong mountain). Undeterred, the broadcasters continue, giving a bible belting such as it has never received before.

Talking of salubrious figures, on BBC 1, *Everyman* last night told the story of the journalists on *El Sendero*, one of the largest daily papers in Colombia and the one that has been regularly dynamited because of its campaign against the local drug barons. Journalists have died, offices have been destroyed, but the paper comes out every morning with headlines of defiance in the war against cocaine. All of its reporters now live with fear in the bunker of a newspaper, and columns are written in the daily expectation that they will have to be published posthumously. But as one reporter said: "You can kill me, though you can't kill ideas. In fact, an idea grows stronger when you kill the man who expressed it." Four days later, the drug barons killed him too.

Joshua Sobol's *Ghetto* is playing in the city where its terrible events took place. Michael Freedland met the author

Vilnius faces its grim past

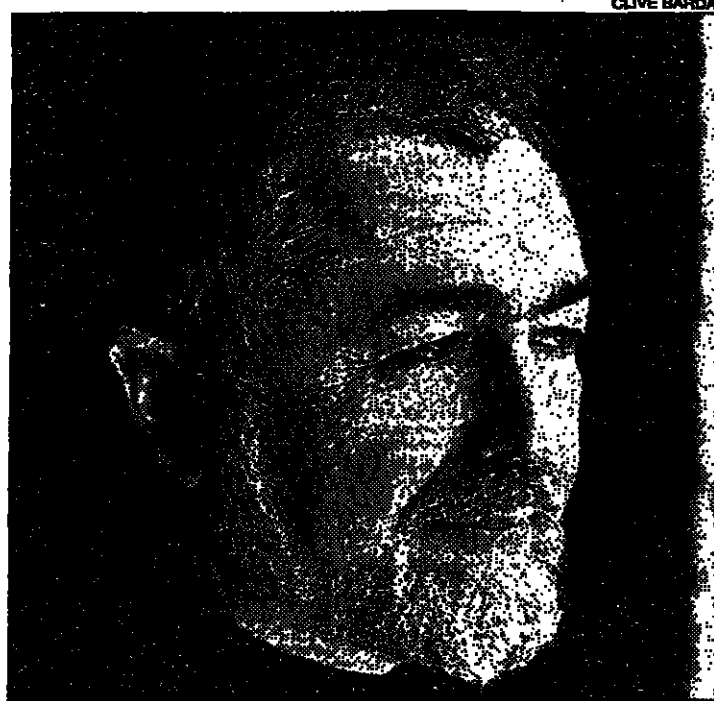
One notable proof that things have changed in the Soviet Union is a series of rehearsals now going on in the state theatre of the Lithuanian capital, Vilnius. While demonstrators march through the streets outside demanding independence, a group of actors calmly go about their business inside, telling of the time an independence movement of a different kind met a deadly end.

The play they are rehearsing is *Ghetto*, which last year had an unexpected success at the National Theatre in London. The play has now been produced all over the West, and the National production is about to be filmed. But there is no more appropriate place for it to be staged than Vilnius, for it is here that the play is set — or rather in the city that used to be known as Vilna.

Before the Holocaust, Vilna was one of the leading centres of Jewish religious scholarship; it was known as the Jerusalem of Lithuania. It was also a great centre of Jewish cultural life, which is why, when the Nazis established a ghetto there as a way-station for Auschwitz and the other camps, one of the first ways in which the imprisoned inhabitants tried to retain a semblance of sanity was to start a theatre. *Ghetto* is that theatre's story — and through it the story of the people living in the ghetto, their torment by the Nazis and the way the Jews' own government, the "Judenrat", had to endeavour to save lives through a degree of co-operation.

For the past year the play's Israeli author, 50-year-old Joshua Sobol, has been living in London, partly to study theatre in Britain but also to work on two sequels to his play. They will go beyond the theatre, and deal with the Jewish resistance movement in Vilna and the subsequent slaughter of its members along with the rest of the ghetto's population.

Sobol is not sure that either of these sequels will find a market in Britain — even with the pedigree of the huge National success behind him. "I somehow don't think people will find them entertaining enough," said the quietly-



Joshua Sobol (left) says reaction to the National Theatre production (right) was "astonishing", but Vilnius may be his ultimate vindication.

spoken writer. "*Ghetto* was not a tremendous commercial success, but the reaction from people who saw it was astonishing."

In fact, Sobol is pleased with everything to do with *Ghetto* — except the Vilnius production. Not that he does not want it to be produced there. Like many, he sees this staging as both the ultimate tribute to what he did and the ultimate vindication of his attempt to show that Jewish life went on in the midst of impossible odds. He also recognizes that having it performed in what used to be called Vilna is extraordinarily symbolic. But what disappointed him was to be refused a visa to see the rehearsals for himself. "I am sure it was just an administrative mix-up. I hope so anyway."

Ghetto was symbolic in another way. It was the first play produced by an Israeli about the Holocaust. Until *Ghetto*, this horrific period in Jewish history had been left — as far as drama and literature were concerned — almost entirely to Holocaust survivors and others living in the Jewish diaspora. To

the native-born Israeli "sabara", it was the fighters of the 1948 War of Independence and the Six-Day War of 1967, and those who dared to execute events like the Entebbe rescue, who represented the kind of Jew they wanted to emulate. There had been a sort of contempt for what was perceived as the "lambs to slaughter" attitude.

Since *Ghetto*, however, other younger playwrights in Israel have adopted the Holocaust theme. "I think there is a need finally to connect with that chapter in history," says Sobol. "The only way to do it is humanize it; to make of it what it probably was, the story of human beings — not of heroes, not of cowards."

"This is already an ordeal. It's to admit that the Judenrat were not traitors, that it was one of the ways of struggling, that there was no demarcation line between saints and devils. This is probably one of the contributions of our generation, not just of writers but also of historians who deal with life in the ghettos."



"I have received letters from historians who say that my conclusions are much the same as theirs. But in Israel, dealing with the resistance, it becomes tricky."

There have been rows. When the second part of *Ghetto*, his play *Adam*, was produced in Israel, Sobol was the centre of "an open controversy between some survivors who attacked my conception and others who defended it. Yet the play became a huge success at our national theatre in Tel Aviv. It started off in the small hall and was transferred to the big hall because so many youngsters in particular wanted to see it."

Sobol is one of a remarkable generation of Israeli writers who have achieved an international recognition that might have seemed impossible just a few years ago. His play, and the books of authors such as Amos Oz and David Grossman, have put Israeli literature on the world scene.

"I wouldn't say that our literature is good or bad, but it is interesting because it deals frontally with the most crucial events, the most tragic events, of our

century. It faces up to the most horrible moral questions that people have had to face this century, and how you go on living with them. And the Israeli predicament is so loaded with unsolvable questions that Israeli writers quite naturally get international attention."

Moreover, Sobol believes that Israeli writers have "played a part in getting people used to saying certain words. Thanks to the writers, Israelis are able to say openly the word 'Palestinian' when speaking about an Arab — not an Israeli Arab, but an Arab living under our occupation."

That was not the case until recently. A few years ago, for instance, Sobol wrote a play called *The Palestinian Girl* which was performed at the Haifa Municipal Theatre, of which he was a leading light. "We had people throwing back their subscriptions, so long as this title was on." They complained about the title, not about the story — about the love of an Israeli girl for a Palestinian boy. They didn't like the word Palestinian.

Unhappy meal time

JAZZ

Clive Davis

Howard Riley
The Vortex

Even in middle-age, the jazz avant-garde shows no sign of breaking out beyond a tiny coterie of enthusiasts. All the hopeful talk about "freedom music" comes up against the harsh truth that the public invariably prefers to exercise its freedom to stay away.

That fact was brought home, once more, on the fourth night of the latest Vortex "Project", devoted to the Yorkshire-born Stoke Newington venue's brave, not to say suicidal, policy of promoting Free Jazz, the residency opened with a solo recital, and continued with trio and duo performances from such veterans as Elton Dean and Eddie Prevost.

Thursday's set by Riley's trio should have been the real crowd-puller. In the event, the group opened to an audience of perhaps 20. After the first number, one party of diners, probably expecting background music *à la* Oscar Peterson, asked the musicians to turn down the volume.

The audience reaction was predictable enough. Compared with the music on Riley's Spontaneous album, *Feathers*, this was a thoroughly abrasive performance. In the studio, Riley and his companions — bassist Mario Castaneda and drummer Tony Marsh — explored an ethereal form of improvisation whose spacious piano chords took the music back towards Paul Bley. With grounding in more conventional jazz, the rhythm players formed a sensitive contrast to Riley's dissonances.

Marsh was unable to appear at the Vortex. His place was taken by Tony Levin, whose strident and erratic pulse formed the core of the onslaught. Riley kept pace with thunderous motifs which sketched the barest of outlines. Castaneda's bass interludes offered the sole respite before Riley embarked on the one standard of the set, "In A Sentimental Mood".

Ellington's melody is the most overplayed ballad in the book, and Riley's sardonic, crabwise ascent across the opening bars seemed to be making the same point.

Riddle of the disruptive drum

CONCENTRATION
Richard MorrisonBBC SO/Davis
Barbican

The crazy sidedrum improvisation which attempts, but fails, to wreck the climax of the first movement in Nielsen's Fifth Symphony is one of music's most spectacular riddles.

Does it stand for a violent intrusion into peaceful life — a memory, possibly of the First World War, and a (considerably more flamboyant) forerunner of the crushing march in Shostakovich's "Leningrad" Symphony? Or a glimpse of how easily a hard-won social harmony can disintegrate into anarchy if individual selfishness prevails? Or perhaps a

premonition of the death of symphonic music itself as the 20th century progressed?

There is, of course, no single "right answer". The piece is an epic jostling of many seemingly unrelated elements: weird woodwind howls and skirls are mixed with sonorous brass chorales; wild bitonal clashes with the most serene fugue passages. Any number of interpretations can be made to fit, yet finally it is the masterly musical logic — Nielsen's absolute certainty of direction — that compels the listener's awe.

When one has the chance, that is, generally, Nielsen's music is still inexplicably allowed to gather dust, like a bottle of some home-made brew too potent to consume. Now, however, as part of Radio 3's new Scandinavian season, the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Andrew Davis are making a

worthy effort to win more fans for Nielsen and Sibelius.

Saturday's performance of Nielsen's Fifth was a fine advertisement. It was pugnacious and tough in the right places, admirably prepared in the finale's testing and exposed first fugue (built magnificently from a skittish lightness to a tremendous roar); and gloriously alive to both the drama and the humanity of the music.

Earlier there had been a rare opportunity to hear Sibelius's wonderfully pictorial *Night-Ride and Sunrise*, played with much vigour. Then Ulf Hoelscher gave a strong and intelligent account of Sibelius's Violin Concerto. His is not the world's sweetest tone, nor perhaps its nearest technique, but he dug into the challenging passage-work with exactly the right kind of passionate ferocity.

Paul Griffiths

Borodin Quartet
Wigmore Hall

Part of the particularity of Alfred Schnittke is that his music is regularly and passionately performed by star musicians, many of whom will be in London during the next couple of weeks to give us a crash course in Schnittke.

The main Schnittke work in this opening recital was his Third Quartet of 1983, a piece already familiar through recordings, but given a new, lean vividness by the special qualities of the Borodins: the leader's acute brilliance of tone, allowing him to flicker between radiance and febrility; the energetically contrapuntal playing of the ensemble; and their use of a wide range of vibrato, which was exceedingly useful in a piece that goes from the white tone of a *Lento* cadence to the near hysteria of Beethoven's "Grosse

Fuge" theme being geared up.

This was also a case of excellent programming. Schnittke, as an ironist more wounded than wounding, is very obviously Shostakovich's successor, but the older composer's Seventh and Eighth quartets were particularly relevant to the younger one's Third. Here in the Seventh was the same parsimony of material, fierceness of tone and omnipresence of tonal cadencing as an easy escape route, while the Eighth gave room for Shostakovich's own DSCH motif to expand out of its quotation in the Schnittke. It also enabled the Borodins to conclude with a compellingly steady vision of that estrangement felt and projected by both composers: the slow finale was breathtakingly beautiful and raw at the same time.

There was also a curiosity: the Mahler Piano Quartet (Ladmirer Berlinsky was the pianist), with a second movement written by Schnittke around and towards a theme sketched by Mahler.

Parental soul search

DONALD COOPER



The Real World? Marcus D'Amico, Shauna Baird and Olivier Pierre

THEATRE

Jeremy Kingston

The Real World?
Soho Poly

B.S. Johnson (experimental novelist, now dead) titled one of his books *Are You Rather Young to be Writing Your Memoirs?* Watching this play by Michel Tremblay (experimental playwright, happily still alive) I found myself asking isn't he rather old to be writing about boorish fathers who just do not understand their artistic sons?

The setting is a comfy living room in Montreal in the summer of 1965, when Tremblay himself was 22 and writing his first play. Young Claude, his hero, has given his mother his first play to read and she is deeply offended by what she finds there. She finds herself portrayed as a long-suffering saint in silk twinset who finally turns on the father, a beer-swilling, salesman, and utters the scene the son has always longed to hear, damning him in particular for nearly raping their daughter in her puberty. What follows contrasts the play world with the real world. To quote B.S. Johnson again: "Telling stories is telling lies."

Tremblay, who is Canada's leading dramatist, often plays cunning tricks with stage conventions and in this play he doubles the real confrontations with Claude and his folks with the more

explicit versions in Claude's play. Alex I, the real father, yells for a beer and slumps in the armchair; Alex II emerges through the wall, hung with net curtaining to make this possible, and does likewise.

Other authors writing about incest have felt the need to present characters alongside their real-life counterparts — Pirandello's *Six Characters* and Anouilh's *La Grotte* both do so — and it is disappointing that Tremblay reveals such awkward stagecraft in this area. His play-mother is dull, though not helped by a hands-on-the-side performance by Lisa Bermond. The real mother is written and played with greater depth, and Pamela Merrick's red hands look as if she actually does slave in the kitchen cooking beef.

Lisa Forrell's direction has not found a way to sustain interest in the early, lengthy dialogues though the pace does quicken with the appearance of the daughters (Shauna Baird, Sara Stewart) and when Claude finally delivers the look-at-me speech to his father.

Though obliged to freeze while his surrogates strut their stuff, Marcus D'Amico's Claude, callow and earnest, captures the look of a hurt young author, passionately jealous for his literary baby. Stephen Hoye and Olivier Pierre give interestingly different versions of the father, though too much is repetitious and unsuitable. All the characters are cursed with that irritating dramatic vice: they cannot keep to anything but the point.

Contemplation then brilliance

Stephen Pettitt

Vogler Quartet
Wigmore Hall

This, simply, was a marvellous exhibition of the art of string quartet playing. The Vogler Quartet, four young players from what, for the time being, we still call East Berlin, demonstrated all the qualities one hopes for, but rarely encounters, in a chamber group: an extraordinary unanimity, a rich sound and impeccable balance (helped considerably by the strong viola playing of Stefan Fehlandt). Most of all, they had a positive vision of the music they played.

From the almost frighteningly explosive opening of Schubert's *Quartettsatz*, a piece which can rarely have sounded more dramatically than it did here, it was clear that there would be no half-measures, or hasty beginnings. Before each piece, and sometimes before individual movements, the quartet would prepare by sitting in silent contemplation, preparing themselves for the task at hand. Clearly it worked for them.

The storm-tossed drama of the Schubert work was followed by something yet more challenging in Berg's secretly autobiographical *Lyric Suite*, but here also the quartet's command of idiom, of form and, importantly, of the emotional sway of the music was well nigh absolute. The fleetness of the faster movements held no terrors — light bowing at subdued dynamic levels never entailed a compromise in the refinement of the sound — while always the

quartet moulded phrasing carefully, enabling the passions of the work to emerge seemingly unbridled by considerations of form.

Beethoven's great B flat Quartet, Op 130, was treated in a similar fashion. The Cavatina, so often an excuse for sentimental over-indulgence, proved the more moving for the Vogler's ability to keep a touch of objectivity in their expressiveness. Otherwise this was a tenacious, bold and strong-limbed performance, and nowhere more so than in the finale. This was the *Grosse Fuge*, Op 133, of Beethoven originally intended, rather than the smaller-scaled movement substituted in the first publication of the work. We were spared nothing of the giant's anarchic counterpoints, jagged rhythms and wildly angular lines. The result was wholly absorbing.

Psychedelia and pseudo-polkas

ROCK

Alasdair Crewe

They Might Be Giants
University of London

They Might Be Giants take a perverse delight in toppling perceptions of what a rock band should be like. Strolling on stage like Sophomores back from vacation, the two Johns, Flansburgh and Linnell, looked unsettlingly normal.

Yet the band inhabit the same "gee, what a weird bunch humans are" territory claimed by Talking Heads, except that they do it with laughs. Their *face-nail* lyrics could have been scribbled on the backs of envelopes and then posted to the wrong address. It is hard to decide whether they are incredibly smart or just dumb. Do not be fooled by the mock philosophical stance, though — the band throw up some infuriatingly catchy tunes. They betray a

dazzling variety of influences, from head-turning psychedelia in the chart-bound single "Birdhouse in Your Soul" to driving country rock in "Lucky Ball and Chain".

However, they are not above throwing in the odd polka and, perplexingly, the underlying feel is that of the music hall — "Istanbul (not Constantinople)" and "Shoe-horn With Teeth" are pure vaudeville.

Recreating the hyperactive, many-textured sounds the band



For laughs: Flansburgh, Linnell

achieves on record would be never impossible, so they do not even try. Instead, they use backing tapes to add a pounding bass-heavy rhythm section to the pared-down guitar and accordion, topped up on occasion by those lesser-known rock instruments: the bass sax, metronome and big bass drum.

Such reliance on pre-recorded tapes might have resulted in a mechanical, soulless parade of musical trickery, but they manage to avoid this by reinterpreting the songs — a broad selection from the new Elektra album, *Flood*, as well as from older indie albums — to exploit the strengths of live instrumentation.

Neither do they need lessons in stagecraft. Guitarist Flansburgh bounces like a hyperactive Clark Kent puppet; while Linnell is a sardonic, static presence behind his oversized accordion. It is not, in any case, the easiest instrument with which to perform on-stage gymnastics. The audience, at times unsure whether to laugh or dance, somehow managed to do both.

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MONDAY PAGE

Three working mothers tell Liz Gill how their ideal Budget would help women — and boost the economy

If Vicky Pryce were a chief economist with the Treasury, rather than with Peat Marwick McLintock, the accountants, next month's Budget would be more radical than even the "mothers' Budget" John Major is rumoured to be considering.

Pryce's Budget would, for a start, allow her to claim tax relief on the money she pays a nanny to look after her four children.

"I think we should be able to offset all childcare arrangements against tax," she says. "The cost can be horrendous, and at the moment it's worth being a working mother only if your income is high enough."

As a partner in the firm, Pryce, aged 37, has both the substantial salary and the career incentive to keep working. For countless other women, however, low pay, inflexible hours and inadequate support systems make the equation much less clear-cut.

It is all very well, they would argue, to talk about the need to attract mothers back into the labour force, to fill vacancies and ensure economic prosperity over the next decade, but perhaps the time has come for the Government to put its money where its mouth is.

Pryce suggests financial incentives for employers hiring women who have taken a career break.

"One of the most significant problems for such women is that they may not be hired at all because they have less experience than another candidate. Or they may be taken on at lower rates. One solution would be to allow a company to claim some of the woman's wages back in tax. In effect, it would be a type of subsidy. The Government could also encourage and pay for retraining."

"I don't know if such measures would breach equal opportunities legislation in that they would discriminate in favour of women. But an argument would be that men already have an advantage, so all we are doing is redressing the balance."

Pryce believes incentives should be given to companies to set up and run workplace nurseries. The few nurseries that do exist have proved a mixed blessing because the Inland Revenue regards them as a perk, like a company car, and taxes them accordingly.

"The taxman should either ignore them or charge only a very small proportion," Pryce says. "Workplace nurseries are, of course, not suitable for some people, especially anyone with a job that demands a lot of flexibility. There's also the stress of having to bring your child all the way in to work and back, which is particularly difficult in London, and it also might make it difficult to separate work and home. But nurseries do suit a lot of people,



Youthful priorities: Vicky Pryce and (from left), Georgia, aged 14; Lydia, nine months; Nico, 5; and Alexandra, 11

Hoping for a Major change

which is why companies that provide them should be helped."

Pryce, who has three girls and a boy, aged from nine months to 14 years, took only six weeks off for each birth. The brevity of her maternity breaks was dictated, she says, by financial necessity, which is why she would like to see considerable improvements in statutory maternity pay.

"You get six weeks on something like 90 per cent of your salary and then it plummets. Some employers are very generous, but others are not. The tax system could encourage improved leave and pay."

"If these things were improved women would take their work more seriously. A lot of women don't try to have a career at all. Women can be faced with terrible choices, and often the great attraction is to forget all about going back to work. Countries that have the best systems have the highest percentages of women in reasonable jobs."

Eileen Doherty, a tax consultant with accountants Price Waterhouse, agrees. "It's all very well saying you get six months' leave and your job will be safe, but if during most of that time you're only picking up something like £30, when you've been relying on your salary, it's pretty useless."

Doherty, aged 30, works three days a week and during that time her two-year-old son is cared for by his grandparents. Although this arrangement suits her, Doherty would like to see more state spending on nurseries and an end to treatment of workplace nurseries as a perk.

"Companies could also be encouraged to set up facilities by increasing their capital allowances in the early years."

She says one of the biggest difficulties is recruiting women who are drawing benefits. The low pay of many of the jobs available means

women are no better off, especially if they incur considerable childcare costs.

"The poll tax could make things worse. A woman on benefit who is likely to get most of her poll tax paid is unlikely to want to go out to work to pay for it."

"What women want is choice and the money to pay for it. Probably the simplest way of achieving this would be to increase personal allowances for parents. I would abolish the married couples allowance, which comes in with independent taxation, and replace it with this allowance for parents. The allowance could also be greater for those with children aged under five, or less for those with a workplace nursery, so that someone doesn't benefit twice."

"The Chancellor could also increase child benefits, which would help the non-taxpayer. One way to boost women's pay would be to introduce a statutory minimum

wage. One of the big problems is that despite equal opportunities legislation, there still tends to be women's work and men's work, and women's work is not as well paid. I suppose if I were being really frivolous I'd suggest the Chancellor gave women an extra tax allowance to compensate for this fact."

"I certainly think the incentives should come from the state. There are real problems that must be tackled, but with the best will in the world you cannot ask people who are in the business of making a profit to lose money because something might be morally right."

"If you make employers pay, there could be a detrimental effect and no one would want to employ women. It's bad enough as it is."

Sally Scutt, who recently returned to her job as a product development manager for Kleinwort Benson's private banking division after having a baby daughter five months ago, suggests a back-to-work grant.

"Just finding childcare is a costly business and may have to be done when a couple is financially at a low ebb," she says.

She considers childcare vouchers, which can be used as a mother thinks best, a valuable scheme which should be encouraged, but says: "You have to remember that women tend to be the carers not only of children, but often of elderly parents, the disabled, or chronically ill members of the family. You may need the system to cover them, too."

"The overriding consideration is that it must be economically viable for women to work. You need help both for the individual and the employer."

"And you mustn't forget that working mothers are in turn, employers with responsibilities to their staff. It's ridiculous that I must pay my nanny out of my post-tax income and then she has to pay tax. The money is taxed twice."

High interest rates force many women into work to cover mortgage repayments. In easier times they might not be so inclined. "We must find ways of getting women to work for the joy of it as well," Scutt says.

Tax incentives, allowances, grants and other measures have their price, but it may be less than sceptics imagine, she says. Women who take jobs create new ones in the support services.

Better pay and tax concessions for parents are likely, in turn, to improve the rates they pay for domestic help, of which a substantial part is part of the black economy.

Pryce says: "There may be short-term costs, but in the medium to long term there could be a net gain to the Exchequer because of the income tax contributions of more working women."

Charity's new male order

The face of those who give time and money to the less-fortunate is changing

Are women more charitable than men? A new Charities Aid Foundation survey suggests they are, particularly in the 18 to 24 age group, where 41 per cent of women give between £30 and £100 a year, compared with 28 per cent of men.

Even bigger differences emerge as the stakes get higher: 18 per cent of women in the same age group part with £100 or more compared with a mere 6 per cent of men.

"Women have traditionally been bigger givers than men," says Dr Peter Halfpenny, who analysed the survey. "They tend to be swayed more by emotive issues or else might work in nursing or childcare fields where charitable donations are part of the work ethos."

"After the age of 25, men become slightly more generous. Nineteen per cent of the 25 to 44 age group give £100 plus a year, compared with 31 per cent of similarly aged women. Men give slightly more than when they were younger because they have greater disposable incomes, and also, because they might have children, their own science is touched. But women still tend to stay ahead in the giving of both time and money, partly because they come into more contact with children and deserving causes."

But if the foundation's survey does not point to anything new, some of the large charities do. "Men are seeing themselves as becoming more caring," Heather Budge-Reid, a spokeswoman for Action Aid, the overseas aid foundation, says. "In a recent Harris Poll, we found only 34 per cent of men felt women cared more about the Third World than they did. The rest maintained that they had firm feelings too."

Such beliefs have not yet been translated into action: 66 per cent of those who fill out the forms for sponsoring overseas families are women. However, it is often the husband's cheque which comes in.

Action Aid is hoping to work on this: it still gets a larger response from advertising in women's magazines than from a more general readership. It also finds that women give a fairly even mixture of time and money, while men tend to assuage their consciences with a cheque rather than labour. "Another trend is that where as many of our female supporters are unmarried, we don't have the same support from single men who don't have families to prompt them into giving."

One charity which has succeeded in making men reach for their wallets is the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which last month directed an appeals campaign at men to balance out its main sponsorship profile (women between 55 and 60, often with no living children). "We purposely made the package as macho and exciting as possible, showing inspectors going down drains to rescue animals," Jane Comerall, the RSPCA's marketing officer, says. "Donations are still coming in but we've had

an excellent response with an average donation of £11.36. Men are definitely becoming happier about giving to charity."

Sadly, men still lag behind on flag days when, according to John Magrath, Oxfam's press officer, more men stop to give when accompanied by their wives who need to take the lead in searching for loose change. Men on their own are more likely to walk by. "Men are also keener to give if action is involved such as buying tickets for a fund-raising concert or participating in a fun run," Magrath says.

Big events like Band Aid have, according to Keith Bradbrook, press manager for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, broadened charities' appeal to men. "Giving is no longer for women, the great and the good. We've appealed for — and are getting — more men on our fund-raising committees than we used to."

Nevertheless, men are still drawn to certain types of causes. The Royal National Lifeboat Institute's paid membership is 78 per cent male, while charities relating to children invariably draw mothers clenching at pictures of less fortunate families (despite the NSPCC's male recruitment drive, 90 per cent of volunteers are mothers). If men do get involved, they tend to take dominant fund-raising roles, according to the foundation's do.

"About twice as many men did office work and directed female task forces," Halfpenny says.

No doubt this causes a frisson or two. Women in Fund-Raising Development — an umbrella group that enables women in different charities to discuss ideas — was formed two years ago to create an alternative. "At that time, charity management was very male-dominated," recalls Willi Bell, a marketing director and member of WFRD. "Most managers were male and on a senior level, so women felt the need to meet in a non-threatening, friendly and sensitive atmosphere." So far, Bell says, the organization has not had any applications from men, but it would consider each one on its own merits.

A similar organization, the Institute of Fund-Raising Managers (60 per cent of whose membership is male), points out that a change in charity-giving is inevitable. "In the past, sponsors were mainly well-heeled, middle-aged ladies. Now society is becoming more aware and charities are being forced to broaden their appeals."

Perhaps the final word should go to the 15-year-old schoolboy, who, on winning *The Times* Platinum Portfolio competition this month, said that most of his win would go to charity.

Jane Bidder

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Is the battle with cruelty still not won?

A European Commission proposal which could increase the need for animal testing is causing concern among industry representatives determined to end the practice. The proposal, to be discussed today by the European Community, will force cosmetic companies to provide an inventory of all cosmetic ingredients and detailed assessments to support their continued use.

Marion Kelly, director-general of the Cosmetic Toiletry and Perfumery Association, which represents companies selling cosmetic products in the UK, is spearheading a campaign against it. She says it will be a "cosmetic solution for the benefit of bureaucrats" and could lead to needless animal suffering.

Animal testing of cosmetics has angered many British consumers — as many as 90 per

A proposal being debated today by the EC may lead to more animal testing of cosmetics

cent of women questioned in some industry surveys say they want an end to the practice — and a growing number of companies is labelling products "cruelty-free". Kelly says the proposal will require testing of common substances, such as honey, lemon or henna, which have long been used without any ill-effects. "Where no test data exists, companies may now be forced to provide it. That will mean tests on animals."

When a similar inventory was proposed for chemicals,



Animal testing: widespread anger at the practice has changed the face of the cosmetics industry

new safety data were not required, Kelly says. A "grandfather clause" said that chemicals previously considered safe would still be acceptable, although new materials would need to be tested.

Kelly says the idea of a cosmetics inventory appears good. Many customers would prefer ingredients to be listed on packaging, a practice pioneered in Britain by Cosmetics To Go, the "cruelty-free", mail-order make-up company and experimented with in other European countries.

Joseph Piccioni, managing director of Beauty Without Cruelty, which pioneered cruelty-free cosmetics in Britain 25 years ago, says: "We concede that animal testing is the only option with new ingredients, but we do not use them."

"We stick with ingredients which have been in use since before the 1976 Cosmetics Directive, which this draft proposal would amend."

The more recent product, the more likely it is to have been tested on animals,

he says. "No company can claim it uses only ingredients that have never been animal-tested."

Body Shop, which last week launched an independent campaign against animal testing, says no such testing is carried out by the company or in its name.

David Davies, a spokesman, says Body Shop will lobby against the proposed inventory, alongside the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection.

"The directive is aimed at

human safety, which, on the face of it, is highly laudable," he says. "The concern is that the EC will look to its scientific committee, which is prone to animal testing. Five hundred years of safety may not be enough for them."

But does the argument surrounding animal testing conceal less altruistic concerns of the cosmetics industry? Only a few types of ingredients, such as preservatives, sunscreens and colours, are now approved by the commission; other ingredients can be used unless they are specifically prohibited. However, if the proposal is adopted, the burden of proof for an ingredient will be on the industry. This could be costly.

Products could be kept off the shelves and manufacturers forced to reformulate ingredients in cases where necessary data was unavailable.

"The financial aspect is not our main fear," Kelly says. "The industry is committed to the ultimate eradication of animal-testing."

If the meeting today shows that the inventory is to proceed, the cosmetics industry will, she says, begin to put on its warpaint in earnest.

Victoria McKee

Glasnost with an American accent

Rita Dapkus once organized press meetings with Chicago senators. Now she sits in a fourth-floor room in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, organizing a team of 10 to bring public relations to the Soviet Union.

"I can't think of a single thing that could be similar in the two cases," she says. "You can't imagine what troubles I'm going through to get the team to pick up the phone and say: 'Hello, Good morning. How are you?'"

The American-born Lithuanian left her PR office in downtown Chicago four years



How does Rita Dapkus (left) a PR executive from Chicago, enjoy her new job — educating Lithuanians in the West's image-making ways?

ago. While on a sabbatical in Vilnius, she joined Sajudis, the Lithuanian independence movement, which has appointed her director of its information office.

"They hired me to clean up the organization's mess. They didn't have set schedules or anything. I have been pushing Sajudis for some time to try and understand public rela-

tions. They never needed it before in the Soviet Union."

Her efforts came to fruition last month with President Gorbachev's visit to Vilnius. The Sajudis banners had been translated into English: "Red Army Go Home"; "Gorbachev Go Home". The western media responded with the photographs for which Sajudis had hoped.

"When Sajudis formed its Constituent Congress in 1988, I had a hard time convincing them that the arrival of the foreign Press was a breakthrough," Dapkus says. "Now they are opening up to the idea that they can play a similar strategic game to Gorbachev."

Despite the growing enthusiasm for her methods, Dapkus feels the ethic of PR as a service industry remains an anathema. "It's the Soviet system. You go into a restaurant and the waiter is the boss. He can tell you there's none of this or that, even when there is, because he

knows he's always going to get paid. And here I am trying to tell them that you're the servant of your clients."

After her four years in American PR, Dapkus arrived in Vilnius in 1986 as the first winds of glasnost blew into the Baltic states.

Her divided national loyalties were quickly forgotten when she saw the incredulous excitement which greeted each new slap in the face of authority.

By June 1988, Sajudis had been formed by a handful of intellectuals, and brought millions of tens of thousands to the streets. "You suddenly felt this huge current of popular opinion. It was like a kettle that was about to blow."

Dapkus returned briefly to the US with plans to resume her career, but again found herself torn between events in Vilnius and her Chicago ambitions. She had been made

Sajudis's US representative, arranging for its delegations to meet leading Chicago politicians. As her commitment to the movement grew, so the possibility of building herself a steady career diminished.

She returned to Vilnius at the beginning of this year at Sajudis's request to muster the information service before the western Press arrived for Gorbachev's visit. For this she earns a modest salary.

"There's still absolutely no PR elsewhere in the Soviet Union, except when some politician is interested in getting something out of westerners," she says. "Then the red carpet's rolled out." Dapkus feels it will be time some before PR, even in Lithuania, will be properly understood or financed.

"The other day a man came up to me with a loaf of home-baked bread. He had a bread co-operative and wanted a consultation. Was there, he asked earnestly, any chance of selling the recipe to America to earn some dollars?"

"But to get western PR," she says, "you've got to have western dollars."

Tom Giles

Pick of the Week



CHRISTIE'S

LUCIO FONTANA is best known as the Italian painter of slashed canvases. Since the 1950s and 1960s when most of these works were executed, he has emerged as a major force in contemporary art, and has been the subject of several books and exhibitions. All his two-dimensional works are titled *Concetto Spaziale*, and the slashes suggest a further dimension beyond the surface of the picture. This fine example, executed in green idropittura (water-based paint), is included in the sale of Contemporary Art at Christie's, King Street on Thursday, 22 February at 2.30 p.m. For further information on this and any other sales in the next week, please telephone (01) 839 9060.

8 King Street, London SW1
85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7
164-166 Bath Street, Glasgow

Lucio Fontana (1899-1968): *Concetto Spaziale*, signed and dated 1959 on reverse, idropittura on canvas. Estimate: £40,000-50,000

VITAMIN C FOR YOURSELF

And your family. Delicious 'one a day' soft, juicy chewy Vitamin C pastilles. Bursting with flavoured Orange or Blackcurrant. The healthy way to keep winter at bay.

CENTURION - DIFFERENTLY DELICIOUS

INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
★ Returns only
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE
LONDON

★ **BLOOD BROTHERS:** Willy Russell's sentimental musical separated twins destroyed by the English class system. Kiki Dee as their mother. Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (01-437 2663). Tue-Sat 8pm, Sun 2pm. Mon-Sat 7.45-10.15pm, Sun 2-5pm, and Sat 4-7pm, £25.00-£18.50. (D)

★ **EXCHANGE:** Martin Jarvis heads the cast in Michael Frayn's translation of long-running Moscow hit by Trifonov: fast-searching and heart-searching in modern Soviet Union. Vaudeville Theatre, Strand, WC2 (01-836 9867). Tue: Charing Cross. Previews from tonight 7.45-9.55pm, opens Thurs 7.45-10.15pm, then Mon-Fri 7.45-9.55pm, Sat 8.15-10.25pm, mats Wed 3-5.10pm and Sat 5-7.10pm, previews £25.00-£13, from Thurs £25-£15.50.

★ **JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL:** Peter O'Toole gives his best and funniest performance in years as the well-known man-about-town locked into his favourite pub overnight and meeting friends from his past. Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (01-437 2663). Tue: Paddy's Circus. Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, Sun 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm, 10.15pm.

★ **THE LIAR:** Jonathan Miller's spirited production of the spiky Comedienne comedy: Alex Jennings marries as the shy hero and Desmond Barris as the inebriated servant. Old Vic Theatre, Waterloo Rd, SE1 (01-928 7616). Tue: Waterloo. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 8.15pm, Sun 2.30pm and Sat 4pm, £27-£15.

★ **A LIFE IN THE THEATRE:** Denholm Elliott and Samuel West in Mamet's study of an old actor and his ambitious young son: the players stronger than the play. Last week. Strand Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 2660). Tue: Covent Garden. Tues-Sat 8pm, mats Thurs, Sat and Sun 4.30pm, £25-£15.50.

★ **MAN OF THE MOMENT:** Michael Gambon and Peter Bowles appear in Ayckbourn's masterly harsh comedy: good meets evil on the Costa del Sol. Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (01-437 2667). Tue: Paddy's Circus. Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, Sun 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm, 10.15pm, mats Wed 3-5.30pm and Sat 5-7.30pm, £27-£15.50.

★ **MISS SAIGON:** Great new musical, with Jonathan Pryce, thrillingly staged. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, WC2 (01-836 9106). Tue: Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.45-10.15pm, mats Wed and Sat 3-5.45pm, £27-£15.50.

★ **MY HEART'S A SUTCASE:** Frances Barber in Claire McIntyre's new play: tries to sort out her life on a Brighton holiday. Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Sq, SW1 (01-730 1745). Tue: Sloane Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4pm, £24-£12.

★ **NOEL AND GERTIE:** Patricia Hodge and Simon Cadell spar, sing and dance in Sheridan Morley's tip top memory lane. Comedy Theatre, Panton St, London SW1 (01-830 2878). Tue: Paddy's Circus. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.45pm, mats Wed 3pm, Sat 8pm, £25-£15.50.

★ **RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET:** Cui hit crams *The Tempest*, sci-fi and rock 'n' roll into a crazy show. Cambridge Theatre, Seven St, WC2 (01-379 5295). Tue: Leicester Sq. Mon-Fri 8-10.20pm, Sat 8.30-11pm, mats Fri, Sat 8pm, £27-£15.50. (D)

★ **WHEN WE DEAD WAKEN:** Claire Bloom and Ewan Skjoberg in Ibsen's mountainous swansong. Almeida Theatre, Almeida St, N1 (01-259 4404). Tue: Highbury & Islington. Previews tonight 8-10pm, opens tomorrow 7.30pm, Tue-Sat 8-10pm, Sun 2-5pm, £24-£12.50.

OUT OF TOWN

★ **LEATHERHEAD:** ★ How Steeples Singsley Wonders. From the Fat Caps Stage version of J.L. Carr's touchingly funny novel. Theatre Royal, Church Street (0372 77767). Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thurs-Sat 8pm, £25-£5.

★ **LIVERPOOL:** ★ Tons of Money: Ayckbourn's NT version of the Aldwych farce in which very complicated problems follow a scheme to grab an inheritance. Playhouse, Williamson Sq (051 709 8883). Mon-Thurs 7.30pm, Fri and Sat 8pm; mat Sat 4pm, £17-£7.50.

★ **MANCHESTER:** ★ The Winner's Tale: Sean Baker in Philip Lloyd's directorial debut here; a Mobile Theatre production, touring from March. Royal Exchange Theatre, St Ann's

FILMS

★ Also on national release as Advance booking possible

★ **BLACK RAIN (18):** Crime story directed by Ridley Scott about a hard-boiled New York cop (Michael Douglas) pursuing a Japanese gangster through Osaka. With Andy Garcia and Ken Takakura (125 min). Cannon Baker Street (01-835 9772). Progs 2.10, 5.30, 8.10, 10.10, 12.10. Cannon Pathway Road (01-370 2636). Progs 2.00, 5.00, 8.00, 11.00. Empire (01-220 0200). Progs 12.15, 3.00, 5.45, 8.30, 11.15, 1.15, 3.45, 6.30, 9.15.

★ **A DRY WHITE SEASON (15):** Powerful apartheid thriller (from André Brink's novel), with Donald Sutherland as a mild schoolteacher whose conscience is finally stirred. Directed by Euzhan Palcy: with a juicy cameo from Marko Brandt (108 min). Curzon West End (01-439 4805). Progs 2.00, 4.10, 6.20, 8.40.

★ **FAMILY BUSINESS:** Comedy-drama drawn upon a novel by Vincent Patrick with Sean Connery and Dustin Hoffman as members of a family of 100 (100 min). Odéon Leicester Square (01-830 6111). Progs 12.05, 2.45, 5.35, 8.25.

★ **HONEY, I SHRUNK THE KIDS (U):** The Disney studio's endearing, family-styled variation on *The Incredible Shrinking Man*, with Rick Moranis as the scientist who accidentally shrinks his children to minuscule size. Directed by Joe Johnston (102 min). Nothing Hill Coronet (01-727 6705). Progs 2.10, 4.20, 6.30, 8.40, 10.50. Odéon Kensington (01-602 5644). Progs 12.45, 3.25, 6.05, 8.45, 11.00. West End (01-330 5255). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.10, 8.45.

★ **JESUS OF MONTREAL (18):** An updated version of a Passion Play causes controversy in Montreal. Strathairn's first feature from Denis Arcand, Canadian director of *The Decline of the American Empire* (120 min). Lumière (01-836 0661). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.05, 8.40. Camden Plaza (01-485 2443). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.05, 8.40. Gaiety (01-727 4043). Progs 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45.

★ **LAST EXIT TO BROOKLYN (18):** Raw, powerful version of Hubert Selby Jr's once-controversial novel of Brooklyn life, from the director of *Christine F.* (114 min). With Stephen Lang, Jennifer Jason Leigh (102 min). Cannon Parkway Street (01-830 6631). Progs 2.15, 4.40, 7.25, 10.05. Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148). Progs 2.20, 5.45, 8.30. Odéon Kensington (01-602 5644). Progs 8.50.

★ **PARENTHOOD (12):** Episodic heart-warmer from Ron Howard about the lives of a family of raising children. Features a large, excellent cast (Steve Martin, Mary Steenburgen, Dianne Wiest, Jason Robards) (114 min). Cannon Parkway Street (01-830 6631). Progs 2.10, 6.10, 9.05. Cannon Oxford St (01-636 0310). Progs 2.00, 5.00, 8.15.

★ **SHIRLEY VALENTINE (18):** Warm-hearted film with the popular touch; Patricia Collins repeats her stage role as the Liverpool housewife rediscovering romance (109 min). As Cannon Parkway Road (01-370 2636). Progs 2.10, 6.10, 9.20.

★ **STEEL MAGNOLIAS (PG):** Dawdling but handsome version of Robert Harling's play about the camaraderie of Southern women, gathered together in a beauty parlour. With Sally Field, Dolly Parton and Shirley MacLaine. Directed by Herbert Ross (117 min). Odéon Haymarket (01-639 7687). Progs 12.00, 2.55, 5.40, 8.25. Odéon Kensington (01-602 5644). Progs 12.25, 3.15, 6.00, 8.45. 10.10. Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 1.40, 4.30, 7.20, 9.45, 11.15. Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 1.40, 4.30, 7.20, 9.45, 11.15.

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★ **WHEN HARRY MET SALLY (15):** Engaging romantic comedy, with Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan as professional Manhattanites who gradually fall for each other. Written by Nora Ephron, directed by Rob Reiner (95 min). Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 1.40, 4.30, 7.20, 9.45, 11.15. Cannon Kensington (01-602 5644). Progs 1.30, 3.55, 6.25, 8.55. Late today, tomorrow 11.15. Screen on Baker Street (01-835 2772).

Renewing credentials



Van Morrison renews his jazz credentials tonight when he joins the Danish Radio Big Band for its debut London concert at the Barbican Centre. Morrison will be appearing for at least half of the concert, and his performance is to be recorded for possible release by his record company. The singer first teamed up with the ensemble five years ago. He joined it again last year for a successful tour of the United States. Formed in 1964, the Big Band built up a solid reputation through work with the American trumpet/arranger Thad Jones and the Danish star Palle Mikkelborg. In 1984, when Mikkelborg composed a suite dedicated to Miles Davis, the Big Band was chosen to perform the music alongside guest soloists. Held in the CBS vaults for five years, the album, *Aura*, was finally released last year. Following the Barbican concert the DKBX goes on the road to England and Northern Ireland, before returning to London next Monday for a week's residency at Ronnie Scott's Club, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-438 8891), 7.45pm-11.30pm. Other dates: Ashton Hall, Lancaster (0524 582000) tomorrow; Stranmillis College Theatre, Belfast Wednesday; Orchard Leisure Centre, Armagh (info 0961 577808) Friday; Rialto Entertainment Centre, Londonderry (info 0504 266516) Saturday.

ensemble offers arts and instrumental music from Diocesan by Purcell. Instrumental music and songs from Les Borlades by Rameau and Bach's Cantatas Nos 82 and 211. Wignmore Hall, 36, Wignmore St, London W1 (01-935 2141), 7.30pm, £5-25.

★ **HAT DANCES:** Richard Sturt conducts the Bournemouth Sinfonietta in Paul Heyes's *Mad Hat Dances*, Fella's *El Amor Eslo*, Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* (John Williams, guitar), Rossini's *Italiana in Algeri* (Overture).

Royal Concert Hall, Theatre Sq, Nottingham (0502 482828), 7.30pm, £5.50-25.50.

★ **DOMUS DOKHANYE:** The Domus Ensemble plays Dohnányi's *Serenade Op 10* and Mozart's *Piano Quartet K 478*. St John's, Smith Sq, London SW1 (01-222 1081), 1-2pm, £3.50.

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EVENING

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TELEVISION & RADIO

Writing-off physical disability

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark

Channel 4's new strand of one-hour documentaries carries the title *Writing-off physical disability*. It promises stories with a sharpness of approach and the ability to challenge and surprise the audience. I suppose most documentary series would claim much the same. However, this new one gets off to a strong start with *Just Some Stories For Eleanor* (Channel 4, 9.00pm). It is the story of Stephen Pegg, a former schoolteacher, who in 1987 was diagnosed as suffering from motor neurone disease. Since then, he has gradually lost the use of his limbs and voice and been unable to wash, dress or feed himself. He is completely dependent on his wife Rosalind who gave up her own teaching job to look after him,



Stephen Pegg: suffering from motor neurone disease (Channel 4, 9.00pm)

which she does 24 hours a day with hardly a night of unbroken sleep. But while his body wastes away, his brain has remained sharp and as some compensation for his physical disability he has developed his talent as a writer, using a head pointer to compose poems, start an autobiography and, not least, put together stories for his five-year-old daughter. He was much encouraged when his witty account of a day's television viewing won a competition and was printed in a national newspaper. Ian Taylor's film records with sympathy and insight Stephen's attempt to come to terms with his predicament and the care and understanding of his supportive family. Stephen's humour, at least, has not deserted him. Trying out his new voice synthesiser, he remarks that he is now 'essentially more coherent than Samantha Fox without a cue card'.

World in Action (ITV, 8.30pm) has got itself a television spot by securing an interview with Alexander Dubcek, leader of Czechoslovakia's abortive bid for freedom in 1968 and now, thanks to President Gorbachov and glasnost, back on his country's political stage. The programme was made by Leslie Woodhead and David Boulton, who in 1980 produced *Invasion*, a documentary about the Prague Spring. A showing of *Invasion*, and a meeting with Julian Glover, the actor who played him, is the cue for Dubcek to look back on the coming of the Russian tanks and his humiliating journey to Moscow for a dressing down by the Soviet leader, Leonid Brezhnev. He goes on to give his assessment of Gorbachov and predict the future shape of Eastern Europe.

BBC 1

- 5.00 *Ceeba*
- 5.30 *BBC Breakfast News* with Kirsty Wark and Jill Dando. Includes regional news headlines, business reports, sports bulletins, regional news, weather, travel information and a look at the morning newspapers with Paul Gavan.
- 5.55 Regional news and weather
- 9.00 News and weather followed by *Open Air*. Viewers comment on the weekend's television.
- 9.20 *Kilroy*. Robert Kilroy-Silk with the first of the week's discussions on the results of a survey about the things that worry young people. With an audience of teachers, parents and young people.
- 10.00 News and weather followed by *The New Fred and Barney Show*.
- 10.25 *Children's BBC*, presented by Simon Parkin, begins with *Playdays* 10.30 *Bookclub*, narrated by Richard Ewles (r) 10.55 *Five To Eleven*. Geraldine McEwan with a reading.
- 11.00 News and weather followed by *Open Air*. Joining Gloria Humphord and Eamonn Holmes are *Wish Me Luck*'s stars Michael J. Jackson and Jane Snowdon.
- 12.00 News and weather followed by *Daytime Live*. Sue Cook and Andy Craig are joined by special guest Lucinda Lambton and there is music from the West End production of *Return to the Forbidden Planet* 12.55 Regional news and weather.
- 1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Michael Birt.
- 1.30 *Neighbours*. Nick is in trouble with the police again and Des has angry words when Lesma returns home. (Coefax) 1.40 *Going for Gold*. Henry Kelly hosts another round of the European general knowledge quiz show.
- 2.15 *The Six Million Dollar Man*: Survival of the Fittest. Someone is out to kill Oscar when he becomes involved in negotiations with the Russians. Starring Lee Majors and Richard Anderson.
- 3.00 *Head of the Class*. We Love You Mrs Russell. American high school comedy series.
- 3.25 *Bazaar*. Janice Long meets six Aylesbury-based firmers who are taking part in the Hearty Ester Campaign. Lesley Waters prepares a tasty recipe for the firefighters and Sally Ann Vokk gets them in trim.
- 3.50 *Two by Two*. Wildlife series presented by Jenny Powell (r) 4.05 *Sopesh* and *Tekup* narrated by Terry Wogan (r) 4.15 *The Further Adventures of SuperTed* 4.25 *Jackanory*. Douglas Hodge with part one of Nina Sawden's *The Wizard of Oz* 4.30 *Braveheart*. Animated science fiction series.
- 5.00 *Newsround* 5.05 *Blue Peter*. (Coefax)
- 5.55 *Neighbours* (r). (Coefax)
- 6.00 *Starline*. Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. Weather.
- 6.30 *Newsround* South East.
- 7.00 *Wogan*. Tonight's guests include veteran Hollywood star Lloyd Bridges and his actor son, Jeff and Beau.
- 7.30 *The British Record Industry Awards*. Cathy McGowan hosts this year's Awards from London's Dominion Theatre, where a host of celebrities from the music and film worlds gather for nominations including the Best British Male and Female artist, Best British Group and Best British Newcomer. Making special appearances are Phil Collins, Nigel Kennedy, Lisa Stansfield, Soul II Soul and Neneh Cherry.
- 9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Michael Birt. Regional news and weather.
- 9.30 *Prisoners of Fear*. A Question of Loyalty? John Ware reports on disturbing new evidence which suggests that the intelligence links to the Loyalist paramilitaries in Northern Ireland, currently the subject of a mainland investigation, are coming principally from the locally-recruited Ulster Defence Regiment.
- 10.20 *Miami Vice*. A Bullet for Crockett. Corry is gunned down in a drugs raid and, aware of his critically-wounded condition, reflects on his vice beat years.
- 11.05 *Peggy Lee Entertains*. Peggy Lee sings her greatest hits from the 1940s onwards, in this concert specially recorded for the BBC (r).
- 11.50 *Advice Hour*. Hugh Scully and Helen Madden report on crime prevention schemes which emphasize the protection of people rather than property.
- 12.00 *Weather*.

ITV/LONDON

- 8.00 TV-am begins with News and Good Morning Britain presented by Richard Keys and, from 7.00, by Mike Morris and Lorraine Kelly. With news at 8.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30. 8.50 *Wascadey* featuring Timmy Mallett soaking up the sun and snow in Austria.
- 9.25 *The Pyramid Game*. Steve Jones returns with a new series of the word game. The celebrity guests this week are Bobby Davro and Sally James. 9.55 *Thames News* and weather.
- 10.00 *The Time ... The Place ...* Topical discussion series chaired by Mike Scott.
- 10.40 *This Morning*. Magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. This edition includes items on astrology, gardening, fashion, food, teaching children to swim, and Jan Leeming's guide to popular crafts. With national and international news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.15 followed by national weather.
- 12.10 *Playboy* 12.30 *Home and Away*. Stacey demands that Nicholas leave Summer Bay when she discovers the life he has on Alsea.
- 1.00 *News at One* with John Suchet. Weather 1.30 *Hollywood Sports*. The viewers continue to decide the plot of this soap set in a health centre.
- 2.00 *Film: Carry On Admiral* (1957, b/w) starring David Tomlinson, Peggy Cummins and Aile Bass. Farce about the results of a drunken spree with a sea-going captain and a parliamentary private secretary switching places and duties. Directed by Val Guest.
- 3.25 *Thames News* and weather 3.30 *The Young Doctors*.
- 4.00 *Nellie the Elephant*, with the voices of Tony Robinson and Lulu. 4.05 *The Raggy Dolls* (r) 4.15 *The Mother, the Teacher and the Child* (r) 4.40 *Children's Ward*. (Coefax)
- 5.10 *Who's the Boss?* Comedy. 5.40 *News with Sue Carpenter*.
- 6.00 *News and Weather* (r).
- 6.25 *Thames News* and weather.
- 7.00 *Wish You Were Here ...* Shaw Taylor samples a luxurious Mediterranean cruise aboard the *Canter* while, at the opposite end of the scale, John Carter reports on an organization which arranges breaks for families who would otherwise be unable to afford a holiday. (Coefax)
- 7.30 *Coronation Street*. Percy Sugden is up in arms about Mike Baldwin's new 'business premises'.
- 8.00 *Starline*. Lucy. General knowledge quiz.
- 8.30 *World in Action*: The Reconstruction of Mr Debeck (see Choice).
- 9.00 *Melting News*. Yes, We Have No Secret. The final episode of the drama series set around TNC, a television news channel. Having spent seven years in prison after being convicted of spying, Suzanne Critchley knows her story is worth a considerable sum of money, but are TNC willing to pay? (Burnet)
- 10.00 *News at Ten* with Alastair Burnet and Trevor McDonald. Weather 10.30 *Thames News* and weather.
- 10.35 *Film: 10 to Midnight* (1983) starring Charles Bronson, Lisa Eilhaber and Andrew Stevens. A sexually frustrated young man murders a girl who humiliates him and establishes an apparently perfect alibi. Directed by J. Lee Thompson.
- 12.35 *The Sunday Times International Bridge Pairs Tournament*. The first live television coverage of a top bridge tournament.
- 1.00 *Sportsworld Extra*. Tony Francis introduces a series of highlights from the International darts tournament, plus the weekend's football news and results from Britain and Europe.
- 2.00 *News headlines* followed by *Film: The Lady Catherine* (1978) starring Michael Caine. A woman who marries a powerful businessman and his family when she uncovers a child prostitution racket. Directed by Yves Boisset.
- 4.00 *News headlines* followed by 60 Minutes. Interviews and investigations from the United States.
- 5.00 *ITN Morning News* with Phil Roman. Ends at 6.00.

BBC 2

- 7.10 *Open University: Bath - A Theatre for Pleasure* and *Trigrid*.
- 8.00 *News* 8.15 *Westminster*.
- 8.30 *Ceeba* 9.00 *Daytime* on an automated programme for the elderly and continues with items on, among others, living with AIDS (at 8.40) 12.15 *Hill's* 12.30 *Germany* 12.35 Starting your own business 1.00 *Electricity from bacteria* 1.40 *Working on an arable farm* 2.00 *News* followed by a learning to read series 2.15 *Songs of Praise* from Edinburgh (at 2.40) 2.50 *Behind the Screen*. Neil Mullarkey talks to French and Saunders.
- 3.00 *News* and weather followed by *The Yellow River*. Part four (r) 3.30 *Richard and Judy* 3.50 *News* and weather.
- 4.00 *Great Railway Journeys of the World*. Ludovic Kennedy retraces the tracks of Robert Louis Stevenson when he migrated from New Jersey to California in 1893 (r). (Coefax)
- 5.05 *Film: The Bitter Tea of General Yen* (1932). Bowditch starring Barbara Stanwyck. Megan Davies arrives in Shanghai and becomes caught up in civil war. Directed by Frank Capra.
- 6.30 *DEI* begins with *Snob* TV featuring the Kreisler Orchestra 7.00 *A-Z of Ballet*. James Grant talks about his Roman Catholic faith 7.30 *Young Musician of the Year* 1990. A new series begins with a percussion masterpiece from the Scottish musician Evelyn Glennie.
- 8.10 *Horizon: The First 14 Days*. An investigation into the latest embryo research to find out what the United Kingdom's scientists are doing, and why.
- 9.00 *Film: Night to 1977* (1985) starring Frederic Forrest, Chris Collet and Justine Bateman. Drama based on the true story of a teenage brother and sister who, along with their mother, deal with the emotional and physical torment and tyranny of their father - until they decide they have the right to kill. Directed by John Erman.
- 10.30 *Newsnight*.
- 11.15 *The Late Show* includes a profile of Robbie Coltrane. 11.55 *Weather*.
- 12.00 *Open University: Art Foundation Course*. Ends at 12.30am.

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 *The Channel Four Daily* 6.25 *Schools* 12.50 *Streetside* (r) 12.55 *Business Daily*. Financial and business news service.
- 1.00 *Sesame Street*. Pre-school learning series.
- 2.00 *The Open Learning Business*. The benefits which Open Learning learning to managers (r).
- 2.30 *Film: The Shop at Sky Corner* (1948, b/w) starring Oscar Homolka, Kenneth Griffith and Muriel Pavlow. Thriller about an ex-Devil's Island fugitive who is forced to take desperate measures when his daughter becomes the target of blackmail. Directed by George King.
- 4.30 *Countdown*.
- 5.00 *The Late Late Show*. Dublin's top comic and music show.
- 6.00 *Same Difference*. Libby Cross and Mark Todd report on the state of the arts, and ask whether it caters for the disabled people.
- 6.30 *Happy Days*. American comedy series.
- 7.00 *Channel Four News* with Jon Snow and Zainab Badawi.
- 7.50 *Comment*. Followed by *Weather*.
- 8.00 *Brookside*. Sammy finds out just who her real friends are. (Oracle)
- 8.30 *Desmond's*. A Microwave, Five Men and a Baby. Desmond is left minding a baby while Shirley and the kids go away for the weekend.
- 9.00 *Cutting Edge*. Just Some Stories for Eleanor. (Oracle) (see Choice).
- 10.00 *Comment*. A fire breaks out at the Doctor of the Year awards; Ficus breaks the news to Enrich's mother that he's disappeared; and Griffin awaits the outcome of his AIDS test.
- 11.00 *Four Minutes: Bless You*. A young girl is struck down by the Black Death.
- 11.05 *Peace under Fire*. The events leading to no Power (1989) a general election in Nicaragua.
- 12.00 *France Four*. Jean-Luc Godard talks to young children about their view of the universe, and, more specifically, about life in France. English subtitles (r).
- 12.40 *Ghosts in the Machine*. *Accidents in the Home Nos 7 and 6* and *Ulysses au Pays des Merveilles* (r).
- 1.05 *Animation*. *Verdun*, from Czechoslovakia, and *L'Os Bleue*, from France. Ends at 1.20.

SATELLITE

- SKY ONE
- 5.00am *International Business Report* 5.30 *European Business Channel* 6.00 *International Business Report* 6.30 *Those Were The Days* 11.30 *International Business Report* 1.30am *NBC Today* 2.30 *Parliament Live* 3.15 *Parliament Live* 4.30 *NBC Today* 5.00 *Live at Five* 6.30 *Beyond 2000* 7.30 *The Reporters* 8.30 *Frank Bough* 9.30 *Newsline* 10.30 *The Reporters* 11.30 *Frank Bough* 12.30 *Newsline*
- SKY NEWS
- 5.00am *International Business Report* 5.30 *European Business Channel* 6.00 *International Business Report* 6.30 *Those Were The Days* 11.30 *International Business Report* 1.30am *NBC Today* 2.30 *Parliament Live* 3.15 *Parliament Live* 4.30 *NBC Today* 5.00 *Live at Five* 6.30 *Beyond 2000* 7.30 *The Reporters* 8.30 *Frank Bough* 9.30 *Newsline* 10.30 *The Reporters* 11.30 *Frank Bough* 12.30 *Newsline*
- SKY MOVIES
- From 8.00am *The Shopping Channel* 2.00pm *I Don't Know Who I Am*: An adopted girl decides to find her natural parents. 3.00 *The Bridge of Adam Rush*: Set in the 1800s, a 12-year-old boy has to adapt to life in the wilderness. 4.00 *Top Cat* and the Beverly Hills Cats: Animated adventure. 6.00 *Made in Heaven* (1987): Two souls return to Earth in search of romance. With Timothy Hutton and Kelly McGillis. 7.00 *Power* (1989): A newspaper for political candidates grows to distrust his work. With Richard Gere. 10.00 *Platoon* (1986): Charlie Sheen as a new recruit fighting in the Vietnam war, discovering the joys and the folly of war (scrapped). 12.15am *Return of the Living Dead* (1985): Hundreds of brain-eating zombies are accidentally released. 1.45 *Love and the Beverly Hills Cats*: A psychosexual drama about four people caught up in a web of desire and emotion. 3.40 *The Pictures*: Cinema releases. 4.00 *Hearts of Fire* (1987): A girl (Rita Farian) searches for freedom in the music world. Ends at 5.35am.
- EUROSPORT
- 5.00am *As Sky One* 5.30 *Menu* 6.00 *As Sky One* 6.30 *Menu* 7.00 *As Sky One* 7.30 *Menu* 8.00 *As Sky One* 8.30 *Menu* 9.00 *As Sky One* 9.30 *Menu* 10.00 *As Sky One* 10.30 *Menu* 11.00 *As Sky One* 11.30 *Menu* 12.00 *As Sky One* 12.30 *Menu* 1.00 *As Sky One* 1.30 *Menu* 2.00 *As Sky One* 2.30 *Menu* 3.00 *As Sky One* 3.30 *Menu* 4.00 *As Sky One* 4.30 *Menu* 5.00 *As Sky One* 5.30 *Menu* 6.00 *As Sky One* 6.30 *Menu* 7.00 *As Sky One* 7.30 *Menu* 8.00 *As Sky One* 8.30 *Menu* 9.00 *As Sky One* 9.30 *Menu* 10.00 *As Sky One* 10.30 *Menu* 11.00 *As Sky One* 11.30 *Menu* 12.00 *As Sky One* 12.30 *Menu* 1.00 *As Sky One* 1.30 *Menu* 2.00 *As Sky One* 2.30 *Menu* 3.00 *As Sky One* 3.30 *Menu* 4.00 *As Sky One* 4.30 *Menu* 5.00 *As Sky One* 5.30 *Menu* 6.00 *As Sky One* 6.30 *Menu* 7.00 *As Sky One* 7.30 *Menu* 8.00 *As Sky One* 8.30 *Menu* 9.00 *As Sky One* 9.30 *Menu* 10.00 *As Sky One* 10.30 *Menu* 11.00 *As Sky One* 11.30 *Menu* 12.00 *As Sky One* 12.30 *Menu* 1.00 *As Sky One* 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Iranian mob calls for the execution of jailed Briton

Tehran (AFP) — Thousands of demonstrators outside the British Embassy compound here yesterday called for the execution of Mr Roger Cooper, the imprisoned British businessman.

The protesters, in a show of support for the death sentence against Salman Rushdie, the British author, urged the authorities to execute Mr Cooper as a spy soon and to recall Iranian students from the UK.

Mr Cooper has been imprisoned without trial over alleged spying since 1985. Britain recently expelled nine Iranian students on the ground of threatening national security.

The protesters burnt British and US flags while chanting "Death to England". But tight security kept the crowd away from the mission, which has been closed since London and Tehran cut diplomatic relations last March.

The demonstration was called by a radical Islamic university association to mark the first anniversary of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's religious decree exhorting Muslims to kill Rushdie.

On February 14 last year, the late spiritual leader of Iran ordered Muslims to hunt down and kill the Indian-born author, whom he accused of

Nicosia (Reuters) — Iranian newspapers yesterday condemned "opportunists" for joining a football riot in Tehran on Friday which an opposition group said had turned into a big anti-government demonstration.

blatant Islam in his novel *The Satanic Verses*.

The death threat forced Rushdie into hiding under British police protection, and prompted the break in diplomatic relations.

● **Rafsanjani snubbed:** President Rafsanjani of Iran was snubbed yesterday by the country's highest-ranking Islamic judge for describing Khomeini's death sentence on Rushdie as "merely the religious judgement of an expert" (Hazhir Teimourian writes).

Ayatollah Muhammad Yazdi, head of the Supreme Judicial Council, declared that the *fatwa* was no longer only a religious judgement but had become law. "It is not open to anyone to interpret it in any other way," he said. "It must

be carried out. It would be a sin and a crime for Muslims who might have the opportunity to kill this apostate writer not to do so."

Mr Rafsanjani appeared on Friday to be joining the radicals who had used the week of the anniversary of the *fatwa* to call for Rushdie's blood. In his sermon he expressed surprise that the West "made so much noise over the judgement of a religious expert", implying that the edict could not be regarded as an incitement to murder because it had been invoked by a man of God.

However, it now seems that his belated joining of hands with the radicals was regarded as ambivalent. In particular, the state's chief judge appears alarmed that the President may have been seen to distance his Government from the *fatwa* by implying that "the judgement of a religious expert" might not be binding on the state.

Ayatollah Yazdi's interpretation of the President's remarks may be correct. Mr Rafsanjani did not clearly call for the murder of Rushdie, and his Government is known to be keen on improving ties with Europe, if not the US.

Eighteen months after a ceasefire ended fighting with Iraq in the eight-year Gulf War, Iraq still occupies more than 1,000 square miles of Iranian land, with no formal peace treaty in sight, and the Iranian economy shows no sign of revival after the stagnation of the war years. Millions of Iranians still suffer from shortages, unemployment and high inflation. Britain's voice in the councils of the European Community is regarded in Tehran as powerful enough to block a fundamental change of European mind on Iran.

Ayatollah Yazdi's intervention will strengthen the Government's Islamic critics at home, prominent among whom is Hojatoleslam Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, the former Interior Minister recently elected to the Majlis (parliament) in a by-election.

Poison fear as 15 million tyres burn



Firemen fighting in vain to control the blazing mountain of tyres, accumulated for 20 years in the hope of being recycled.

From John Best, Ottawa

Workers of the Ontario department of the environment began drilling test holes yesterday near the site of a huge fire at a used-tyre dump in Hagersville, 80 miles southwest of Toronto.

The fire has been burning out of control for nearly a week, sending an immense plume of black smoke over the surrounding countryside and forcing the evacuation of about 1,200 people from the farming community.

An estimated 15 million tyres, of all sizes, are stored at the 14-acre site. Officials expressed fear that a big ecological disaster may be in the making.

Environmental experts said the fire was potentially a greater disaster than the 1988 blaze in a warehouse full of waste chemicals that forced the evacuation of 3,900 people from the town of St-Basile-le-Grand in Quebec.

Mr Christian Roy, a chemical engineer at Laval University in Quebec City, said: "This is much worse. We could stop the fire at St-Basile. This risks lasting seven or eight months. The substances in the smoke are extremely dangerous."

There would be a "rain" of toluene and benzene — cancer-causing substances — on a wide area around Hagersville. "Everything will be polluted — the air, the soil, the ground water," Mr Roy said.

The drilling of holes was to determine whether oil from a gathering pool created by the burning of rubber had begun seeping from the surface into the sub-surface water table.

A number of chemical agents, some suspected of being capable of causing cancer and others harmful to people with respiratory problems, have already been detected in the emissions.

Neither firemen's hoses nor repeated runs by water bombers have had much effect on the inferno raging within the mountain of tyres, which has been accumulating for more than 20 years. The owner of the yard, Mr Ed Straza, has charged that the blaze was started by arsonists.

Mr Straza has been fighting an environment ministry order, issued in 1987, that he take steps to reduce the risk of an accident at the growing stockpile. These included building a 950,000-litre water reservoir, a fence to keep out intruders, and separating the tyres into smaller piles, with 10-metre fire lanes.

Mr Straza has been storing the tyres in hopes of taking advantage of an expanded recycling programme Ontario has been considering.

Mr Lucien Bouchard, Canada's federal environment minister, was pessimistic about prospects of extinguishing the fire, which is raging across an area equal to 18 football fields.

He told reporters in Ottawa: "It's horrible to say, but we don't know of any existing means to stop the fire immediately."

Roger Cooper: Accused of spying but never put on trial

Salman Rushdie: Accused of blasphemy by the Iranians

Fresh move to end crisis at Eurotunnel

Continued from page 1

André Bénard, that the tunnel might never be completed.

The statement is expected to say that, in spite of M Bénard's warning, the group is making progress towards resolving the dispute with TML.

The construction consortium is insisting on management changes. In particular, it wants Mr Alastair Morton, chief executive of

Eurotunnel, removed from day-to-day involvement with the building work.

TML has been insisting on a new man at Eurotunnel to act as a buffer between Mr Morton and the construction companies. Mr Morton led the Eurotunnel negotiating team during a series of disputes over the soaring cost of the tunnel which is now estimated at £7.2 billion compared with

the original £4.8 billion. Mr Morton has repeatedly refused to give way to TML pressures to meet almost £400 million of the cost over-run which is at the heart of the dispute.

The £400 million relates to a part of the contract, including the tunnelling work, which was to have been carried out for a fixed price. TML claims that the extra costs arose because Eurotunnel changed

the specifications of the work while it was in progress.

The second management shake-up is likely to be welcomed by the 208 banks which are backing the link. They have been deeply concerned by the bitter feuding between TML and Eurotunnel and have sought the intervention of the Bank of England Governor, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton.

Thatcher warning on Germany

Continued from page 1

tions to be sorted out which did not involve Germany and the four powers alone.

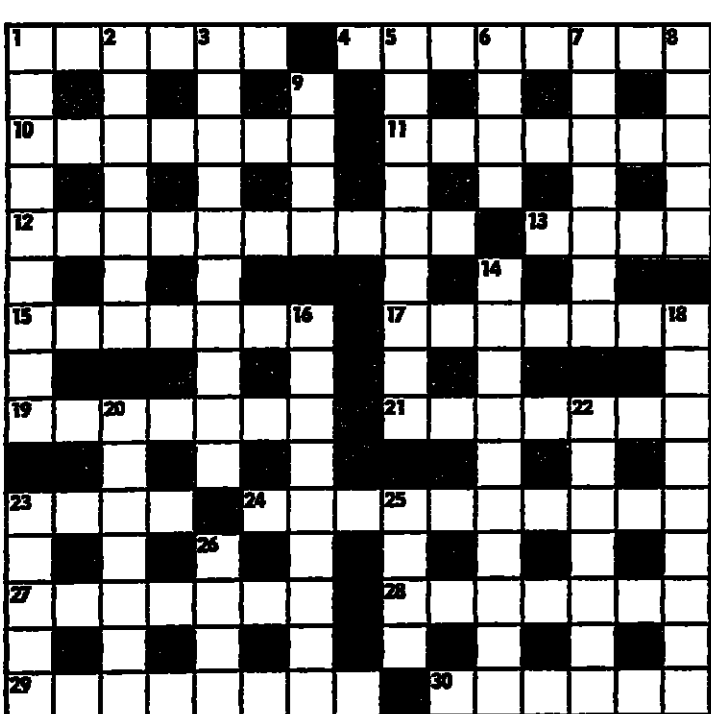
Some 350,000 had made the crossing last year, another 85,000, mostly younger people, already this year.

Mr Stuth insisted that the West German Government wanted to build the united Germany within the present European architecture and that despite the present focus on the East, it remained keen to accelerate and deepen the process of European inte-

gration. And he said that Chancellor Kohl was keen to balance advance on economic and monetary union with increases in the power of the European Parliament.

● Herr Kohl, the West German Chancellor, begins his election campaign in East Germany at Erfurt tomorrow as the high economic and political cost of reunification takes its toll on his popularity.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,221



- ACROSS**
- 1 Hints caused by airman — a foreign one (6).
 - 4 Square pole in desert quarter (8).
 - 10 Cunning verbal snub (7).
 - 11 Fed up Celt goes round bend (7).
 - 12 Left in utter confusion after gybe, and capsizes (4,6).
 - 13 One entering workers' carriage (4).
 - 15 They give out good notes, after some hesitation (7).
 - 17 Reduced bureaucracy, switching the sides round (7).
 - 21 Drafted under stress (7).
 - 23 Essential part for this kind of helmet (4).
 - 24 Clear ante-post betting transaction (10).
 - 27 Most fastidious goddess in a haunt of thieves (7).

- DOWN**
- 1 Heard when judged the ultimate winner (4,5).
 - 2 Explain how to make profit on a horse (5,2).
 - 3 Send rights issue for late investment (5,5).
 - 5 Went up and down from university — left in no time! (9).
 - 6 Quick notes in succession at end of movement (4).
 - 7 Place of work that is later demolished (7).
 - 8 Fainter without one god (5).
 - 9 Gaelic disturbance (4).
 - 14 "The Iron Hand" — Poe's prison version (10).
 - 16 Thus getting Russian agreement to dilute the drink (4-5).
 - 18 Reckless, some French exercise speed (9).
 - 20 Withdraw out of region (7).
 - 22 Hair bouffant, to our delight (7).
 - 23 Pinch some cheesecake (3-2).
 - 25 Quarters with inner city style (4).
 - 26 Oh! This I don't believe (4).

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 18,220 will appear next Saturday

Concise Crossword, page 20

WEATHER

Generally cloudy with rain, heavy at times, over eastern Scotland, northern England, Wales and south-west England. In the afternoon brighter weather with blustery showers over western Scotland and Northern Ireland will spread across eastern Scotland into northern England and perhaps north Wales. But rain will return later. Windy everywhere, possibly storm force in north-west Scotland and north-west Ireland. Outlook: Cloudy with rain at first, brighter later.

ABROAD

MEDIAN: 1=Thunder; 2=Drizzle; 3=Snow; 4=Rain; 5=Sun; 6=Clear; 7=Light; 8=Heavy; 9=Storm; 10=Thunder; 11=Light; 12=Heavy; 13=Storm; 14=Thunder; 15=Light; 16=Heavy; 17=Storm; 18=Thunder; 19=Light; 20=Heavy; 21=Storm; 22=Thunder; 23=Light; 24=Heavy; 25=Storm; 26=Thunder; 27=Light; 28=Heavy; 29=Storm; 30=Thunder; 31=Light; 32=Heavy; 33=Storm; 34=Thunder; 35=Light; 36=Heavy; 37=Storm; 38=Thunder; 39=Light; 40=Heavy; 41=Storm; 42=Thunder; 43=Light; 44=Heavy; 45=Storm; 46=Thunder; 47=Light; 48=Heavy; 49=Storm; 50=Thunder; 51=Light; 52=Heavy; 53=Storm; 54=Thunder; 55=Light; 56=Heavy; 57=Storm; 58=Thunder; 59=Light; 60=Heavy; 61=Storm; 62=Thunder; 63=Light; 64=Heavy; 65=Storm; 66=Thunder; 67=Light; 68=Heavy; 69=Storm; 70=Thunder; 71=Light; 72=Heavy; 73=Storm; 74=Thunder; 75=Light; 76=Heavy; 77=Storm; 78=Thunder; 79=Light; 80=Heavy; 81=Storm; 82=Thunder; 83=Light; 84=Heavy; 85=Storm; 86=Thunder; 87=Light; 88=Heavy; 89=Storm; 90=Thunder; 91=Light; 92=Heavy; 93=Storm; 94=Thunder; 95=Light; 96=Heavy; 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From John Best, City Editor
Workers of the department of the city began drilling for water on Sunday near the site of a fire at a road-side building in Haggerston, 80 metres west of Finsbury Park.
The fire has been out of control for a week, sending a plume of black smoke into the sky and forcing the evacuation of 1,200 people from the community.
An estimated 15 tonnes of all sorts of debris, including a 14-acre site of pressed paper, are being made ready for disposal.
Environmentalists say the fire was caused by a greater disaster than the waste chemicals dumped from the town of Haggerston in 1984.
Mr Christian Best, a local councillor, said: "This is a disaster of the first magnitude. It is the smoke and the fire which is the danger."
There would be a lot of smoke and a lot of noise, and a lot of people would be affected. The fire was a disaster of the first magnitude. It is the smoke and the fire which is the danger.

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- LAW 34
- SPORT 35-40

MONDAY FEBRUARY 19 1990

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هكذا من الأصل

Executive Editor
David Brewerton
CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6960 (+0.0055)
W German mark
2.8450 (+0.0117)
Exchange index
89.7 (+0.3)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1836.6 (+5.9)
FT-SE 100
2325.9 (+12.3)
USM (Datastream)
155.21 (-0.95)

Collapsed insurer lost cash in illicit share deals

By Our City Staff

Garston Amburst, the collapsed insurance agent, lost a substantial part of its investors' funds in illicit venture capital transactions.

The Garston Amburst Investor Protection Group, set up to recover up to £20 million, has uncovered details of share stakes purchased by Garston without authorisation in unquoted companies through licensed dealers.

The money came from Garston's unauthorised client funds, which was also used to buy quoted shares through Laurence Keen, the stockbroker. Some companies are thought to have subsequently failed, and may explain where some funds have gone.

The Serious Fraud Office is attempting to trace the unauthorised funds.

Garston, which went into voluntary liquidation last month, was authorised only to sell products from National Financial Management Corporation, the insurance offshoot of the TSB Group, but was running its own unauthorised client accounts.

The funds held up to £8 million from 300 investors, who have been told there is little left. The investors' group has so far been contacted by 60 investors, who put in up to £3 million. They are exerting pressure on NFMC for compensation arguing that Garston, as its tied agent, was the company's responsibility.

Mr John Redwood, the corporate affairs minister, said the Department of Trade and Industry knew seven years ago that Garston was making unauthorised investments. He said the department stopped investigating after it received a letter from Garston's solicitors assuring it that the trading had ceased.

Mr Redwood is due to meet Mr David Walker, chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, where the subject of Garston and future regulation of agents is expected to be discussed. He will launch a full DTI inquiry if necessary.

Furmanite delay

Furmanite, an engineering management buyout, has shelved preparations to come to market despite a 115 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £3.56 million in the year to end-September.

The company, a £12.2 million buyout from J Bibby in 1986, specialises in sealing industrial leaks. It blames the postponement on continuing uncertainty in world markets. Turnover rose 29 per cent to £40.8 million, and net assets 14 per cent to £6.1 million.

Disco buy

Whitegate Leisure is to buy outright the Xenon discotheque and Kimbo Ten Pin Bowling centre in St Quentin, France, for Fr6.8 million (£703,000) plus Fr5 million for outstanding liabilities.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
Australia	9.15	2.75
Austria	2.75	1.75
Belgium	2.75	1.75
Canada	2.75	1.75
Denmark	11.45	1.97
France	11.45	1.97
Germany	11.45	1.97
Greece	21.30	2.75
Hong Kong	11.45	1.97
India	11.45	1.97
Italy	11.45	1.97
Japan	11.45	1.97
Netherlands	11.45	1.97
Norway	11.45	1.97
Portugal	11.45	1.97
South Africa	11.45	1.97
Spain	11.45	1.97
Sweden	11.45	1.97
Switzerland	11.45	1.97
Turkey	11.45	1.97
USA	11.45	1.97
Yugoslavia	11.45	1.97

Excise duties may be held to harmonize EC rates

The Chancellor may have to hold down excise duties on petrol, drink and tobacco for a number of Budgets to help bring excise rates within the European Community closer together.

This is the view of Mr Peter Wilmott, currently a Commissioner of HM Customs and Excise but soon to be EC Director General with responsibility for customs union and indirect taxation. In his new job he will head the bureaucracy assisting Mme Christiane Scrivener, the French Commissioner, with harmonizing the tax systems of the EC sufficiently to make a community without frontiers possible by 1992.

The Chancellor, Mr Wilmott

emphasizes, is under no legal obligation in his forthcoming Budget to fix excise duties at any level to suit the EC, but may be under moral pressure to move towards a community average rather than away from it.

In the case of the high-tax countries like Britain, the EC would prefer a standstill in rates until some agreement has been reached — an agreement which has to be unanimous. Holding down excise duties rather than indexing them for inflation over a period of years would provide an attractive support for the Chancellor's anti-inflation policy, though there would of course be a revenue cost.

But the immediate problems are more for the low-tax countries in southern Europe, some of which have no duty on wine at all. The EC wants these countries to bring their duties up to a minimum level.

On the VAT side, approximation — the EC term for bringing VAT rates closer together — will give Britain more difficulty. Britain's

Economic View 25

standard rate of 15 per cent is nicely within the 14-20 per cent band, but its zero rates are anathema. But it is certainly "conceivable," says Mr Wilmott, that Britain will be able to go on zero-rating food, light and power. In his

more familiar role as a Customs and Excise Commissioner, Mr Wilmott says: "The point we make is that most of the goods which Britain zero-rates such as housing and electricity do not travel. Where they do, such as food, cross-border shopping is not likely to be very worthwhile."

Ministers are likely to argue that as an island, Britain is less likely than most other EC members to attract cross-border shoppers, and that Britain's zero rates could be ring-fenced by agreeing that only zero rates in place before a certain date would be acceptable. "The main difficulty, is children's clothing," he admits. Mr Wilmott is too discreet to say so, but it seems

likely ministers will have to concede that at some point. But Britain is far from alone in finding problems with the EC 14-20 per cent band. The Italians and Belgians, with relatively high rates, are worried about the attraction of West Germany's 14 per cent rate and Luxembourg's lower one and want a narrower band with a higher starting rate. The talks, likely to climax in the Dutch presidency in the second half of next year, will be "difficult," he admits.

An important question as frontier controls fall will be how to counter the increased opportunities for fraud. The answer is a combination of more flexible investigation at national level and

greater co-operation between the different national tax administrations. To put it politely, these often have rather different cultures at present. Mr Wilmott believes that the Commission can play a useful catalytic role in "setting the ground rules for co-operation."

Even more serious in the British Government's mind is the effect of lower frontier controls on the passage of drugs and terrorist weapons from one EC country to another. Until effective perimeter controls can be put in place between the EC and the outside world, such customs concerns will be left to national administrations under the let-out clause in the agreement.

Eurotunnel to reassure SE over viability

By John Bell, City Editor

Eurotunnel will make statements to both the London and Paris Stock Exchanges today to reassure investors worried over its viability.

The move follows weekend comments by M André Bénard, the group's chairman, that the £7.2 billion Channel Tunnel may never be finished.

The statement is expected to make it clear that despite the gloomy views expressed by M Bénard in a television interview, progress is being made in resolving the bitter dispute with Transmanche-Link, the 10-strong Anglo-French consortium building the tunnel.

Market-making sources say that without clarification from the company, Eurotunnel shares would collapse today. A second statement, outlining the arrangements agreed over the weekend, will be made later in the day.

Eurotunnel shares have been weak for the past few days since the renewed outbreak of hostilities over Eurotunnel's management structure, in particular the role of Mr Alastair Morton.

Mr Morton, the group's former co-chairman, was last week named chief executive. The management reshuffle, which also brought in Mr Alastair Fleming, formerly in charge of BP exploration, as

director of construction, infuriated TML. It has waged a campaign to remove Mr Morton from day-to-day involvement with TML.

Today's statement is unlikely to give details of the solution being finalized by TML and Eurotunnel. This is thought to involve the appointment of an outsider to Eurotunnel's board who will supervise the construction programme.

The new appointment calls into question the future role of Dr Tony Ridley, named last week as managing director in charge of the construction project.

Dr Ridley, whose working relationships with TML have been cordial, denied last month that he was about to leave.

The row over management is now the last obstacle to

confirmation of an agreement reached last month between TML and Eurotunnel which was to have ended months of dispute over the soaring costs of the tunnel.

Eurotunnel's 208 bankers are ready to pay over further tranches of a £5 billion loan when the January agreement is ratified. But TML refused to sign when it learned of the appointment of Mr Morton as chief executive.

By refusing to sign and at the same time suing for more than £60 million in overdue bills, TML put Eurotunnel in a financial strait-jacket. If, as expected, a new executive is appointed later this week, the force play will have achieved TML's wish for a buffer between itself and Mr Morton.

However, Eurotunnel's board, which supported the appointment of Mr Morton as chief executive, is unwilling to make more than minimal concessions to TML. It blames the constructors for much of the cost overruns and the slow progress in tunnelling work on the British side of the channel.

Following the decision in the French courts on Friday, when Eurotunnel was ordered to pay Fr600 million (£62 million) to TML, the Bank of England, acting on its own initiative rather than in response to political pressure, called a meeting to try to defuse the explosive situation.

Ridley: future role in question

Low tin price hits jobs at Geevor



Geevor, the mining group with interests ranging from coal to gold, has called a temporary halt to tin mining at Pendennis, Cornwall, and has served redundancy notices on 122 of its 144 tin miners.

The closure is discussed from left by Mr Gillian Hall, the mill superintendent, with Mr David Kneeshaw, the general manager, and Mr Nick Hall, the managing director.

The company says the world tin price

has fallen from \$6,600 a tonne in May to \$3,657, "which is now well below the minimum cost price that can be achieved in a narrow vein, hard rock mine."

Mr Eric Grayson, Geevor chairman, said the mine needed a world tin price of at least \$5,000 to break even, and hoped that the closure would prove temporary.

Meanwhile, the mine would not be allowed to flood so it could be reopened as soon as tin prices recovered which, it was

hoped, would be "a matter of months not years."

Geevor admits it has incurred "substantial losses" in its tin mining operations, but adds that other parts of the group continued to perform well.

Geevor has been interested in Cornish tin mining since 1911. The Cornish operation was previously closed down as a tin mine in 1987 and reopened under new ownership in 1988.

BAT to name impact date for Argos

By Gillian Bowditch

BAT Industries is expected this week to announce the date of impact day for the demerger of Argos, the catalogue retailer, along with the name of the new non-executive chairman.

Impact day, which will see

the publication of the listing particulars and results for 1989, will be in March.

Dr Mike Smith, the group's chief executive, is taking a philosophical view of floating at a time when the retail sector is at its most depressed and mortgage rates are at their

highest for 10 years. "We would have preferred a different timescale for the flotation," he says but adds that floating in a recession will allow the group to show its strengths.

Takeover speculation is almost a ready-made, and although Dr

Smith believes he has no special right to remain independent he would not like to see the company fall to a group which did not share the Argos philosophy.

A hostile bid is likely to be met with strong opposition. *Temps, page 24*

Funds may sue for Blue Arrow redress

By Neil Bennett

City institutions are preparing to take legal action against UBS Phillips & Drew, the broker, to force it to offer compensation to investors in Blue Arrow's 1987 rights issue.

An institutional committee set up last week to negotiate with P&D will meet early next week to discuss what action it should take. The firm has refused to match National Westminster Bank's offer of £30 million until criminal proceedings over the affair have finished, which could take more than 18 months.

The subject will also be discussed at the National Association of Pension Funds' annual meeting in Eastbourne, East Sussex, on Thursday.

The institutions are demanding that P&D com-

pensate them for allegedly concealing the failure of the Blue Arrow placing in September 1987, and creating a false market in the shares. NatWest has offered to pay investors up to 30p a share, plus interest.

Mr Donald Bryden, the chairman of the Institutional Shareholders' Committee angrily challenged P&D's suggestion that compensation should be linked to the criminal proceedings, and said the committee was looking at ways to start a civil action immediately.

Fund managers may also decide to boycott P&D over the issue, although the committee has left the decision to individual members. Any boycott will seriously affect the firm, which lost £115 million in the 21 months to December 1988.

Barclays sees rate cut of one point

By Colin Narbrough, Economics Correspondent

The need for caution precludes more than a one-point cut in interest rates this year, and then only towards its end, according to Barclays Bank's latest quarterly economic review.

The forecast gives little comfort to home owners after last week's decision by lenders to raise mortgage rates to a record 15.4 per cent.

It is likely to fuel the growing protest on both sides of the Commons at the effects of prolonged high interest rates on both the consumer and industry.

But Barclays says that any reduction in interest rates would depend on consumer spending being held down, even next year. It forecasts base rates declining to 10 per cent by the end of 1991, provided the savings ratio improves or

the Government adopts a much tougher fiscal stance.

Mildly encouraged by the stability of factory gate prices, up 5 per cent last year, it expects retail price inflation to slow to 6 per cent this year, from 7.7 per cent, and fall below 5 per cent next year.

Provisional money supply figures out tomorrow are expected to show total M4 lending rising by about £7 billion last month, well down on December's £10.5 billion rise. But annual growth rate of M0, the narrow money measure targeted by the Treasury, is expected to have accelerated from the 6 per cent reported for December. The target range is 1-5 per cent.

Final-quarter stocks data, due the same day, could provide evidence of large-scale industrial destocking.

Drexel investor sues on behalf of all who lost money

Battle of junk bonds goes to court

From James Bone, New York

The controversy raging on Wall Street over the legacy of Drexel Burnham Lambert, the junk bond powerhouse which last week filed for Chapter 11 protection against creditors, may be decided in the courtroom.

Amid sharp exchanges about Drexel's impact on the US economy in the 1980s, a septuagenarian New York investor, burned by junk bonds, has filed a class-action suit against the investment house.

Mr G J Sheffield, who saw his nest-egg shrink dramatically after investing heavily in junk bonds sold or underwritten by Drexel, has sued in the Delaware Chancery Court seeking damages for all investors who lost money on junk bonds.

According to Mr Richard Greenfield, Mr Sheffield's lawyer, the suit — which alleges that the junk bond market was

"rigged" — could result in claims reaching hundreds of millions of dollars. Mr Greenfield said he expected the class action to attract more plaintiffs and had already received expressions of interest from two pension funds and the beneficiary of another.

The suit alleges that Drexel and Mr Michael Milken, its former junk bond supremo, operated what Mr Greenfield called "The Drexel Daisy Chain" by asking junk bond issuers to buy other junk bonds to support a false market.

When Mr Milken was indicted on 98 counts of racketeering and securities fraud, the system began to unravel, Mr Greenfield claimed.

Drexel pleaded guilty to six criminal charges linked to Mr Milken's junk bond operations and agreed to pay \$650 million in penalties, a settlement which many blame for its downfall.

The suit comes amid great debate on

Wall Street over how Drexel, and particularly Mr Milken, should go down in the history books.

Mr Milken, whose junk financing made a close-knit group of corporate raiders very rich, can still count many supporters. In a commentary in the *Wall Street Journal* last week, Mr George Gilder, of the Hudson Institute, praised Drexel's junk financing for transforming the US economy.

As the arguments flew, other Wall Street firms continued to try to pick up pieces of the bankrupt investment house.

Goldman Sachs said it had agreed in principle to acquire Drexel's portfolio of mortgage-backed securities and Shearson Lehman Hutton was in talks to take over about 28,000 brokerage accounts with assets of about \$5 billion.

General Electric Credit Corp was also said to be trying to buy Drexel's junk bond portfolio at 30 cents to the dollar.

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TEMPUS

BAT still worth a bet — even without a bid

A successful bid for BAT is much more likely now that Sir James Goldsmith is willing to offer cash instead of junk bonds. Tempus looks at the demerger of BAT's highly-regarded Argos offshoot and the underlying value of the remaining operations.

After Sock Shop, Storehouse and Lowndes Queensway, the idea of the City becoming excited about a retail share flotation is hard to swallow. But one problem facing Dr Mike Smith and his team when they bring Argos to market next month is the danger of being over-hyped.

Fund managers are keenly awaiting the closely-guarded secrets of Argos's listing particulars.

But Morgan Stanley, the American securities group, is expecting the group to have a market capitalization of about \$525 million.

Argos is raising no new money in the flotation which takes the form of a demerger from its parent BAT.

BAT shareholders will receive "free shares" in Argos and it will be up to the market to put a valuation on the group when dealings first start.

Argos was founded in 1973 and acquired by BAT for £35 million in 1979.

It now has 251 shops which are split into three categories, Argos Catalogue Showrooms offering 3,500 different products, Argos superstores offering 6,000 lines and Argos Bestsellers offering 2,200

lines. The shops are supported by twice-yearly catalogues.

Dr Smith, who has been with the group for 16 years, leads a team which has increased Argos's sales from £140.7 million in 1980 to £725 million in 1988 and operating profits from £2.4 million to £58.9 million. Argos has one of the best records on the high street.

The company is cash-positive and does not intend to take on debt to fund its expansion. The group has capital expenditure of £20 million-£25 million a year and has plans for 600 shops in the next 10 years. Argos makes a conscious decision to avoid primary sites other retailers compete for.

The phenomenal growth which Argos saw in the early 1980s appears to be slowing but the company is still expected to announce results for 1989 which out-perform the market.

Assuming the group is sensibly-priced, the shares are likely to perform well for several reasons. They will have a scarcity value and will only become available when BAT shareholders decide to sell, Argos is the only profit-

able retailer of its type, its record is excellent and the bid speculation is already strong.

Appleton/Wiggins Teape

Appleton/Wiggins Teape, BAT's paper interests, have one thing in common with Argos. It is not impossible that both companies may receive takeover bids as soon as they are demerged.

For the paper operations, D-Day is June 1. Like Argos, the exercise takes the form of an issue of free shares to BAT holders and the value will be decided by the price set in the market in first day dealings. Before the event, A/WT looks like being a highly sought-after share.

The US operations of Appleton deserve to be highly-rated. For they are in the high-growth specialist areas of the paper market rather than the commodity end of the trade.

Appleton has market leadership in carbonless paper where even in hard times for paper generally, there is little pressure for price discounting.

Wiggins Teape has a more broadly-balanced business in specialist papers plus some interesting investments in pulp manufacture. It has steered clear of the low-margin commodity products such as newsprint and packaging.

Kitcat suggests that there are no quoted companies with



Cataloguing profits: Mike Smith, chief executive of Argos

Kitcat & Aitken, believe that the group is showing signs of building a dominant position in fax paper.

Wiggins Teape has a more broadly-balanced business in specialist papers plus some interesting investments in pulp manufacture. It has steered clear of the low-margin commodity products such as newsprint and packaging.

Kitcat suggests that there are no quoted companies with

the quality of A/WT and that its shares should trade at the top end of the US range for paper groups, which is broadly 7 to 11 times historic earnings, excluding any premium for takeover possibilities.

Sample opinion from three firms which follow paper shares indicates that A/WT merits a market capitalization of about £1.5 to £1.6 billion, which might make the group an instant constituent of the FT-SE 100 share index. Salo-

mon Brothers, the securities house, has run the demerger operation through its computers and says that BAT shares in their present form have a break-up value in the region of 1,075p per share which compares with a current market level of 810p.

This arises from an estimated £2 billion unlocked through demerging Argos and the paper group, a £6.9 billion valuation of BAT's financial services operations and associate holdings plus £7.4 billion from tobacco and other remaining activities. Less net debt this equates to £16.2 billion or 1,075p per share.

Salomon's appraisal concludes that BAT shares are worth a current market price of 885p and that Hoylelake would have to bid around 950p for BAT in its present form to have a good chance of victory.

BAT holders should not underestimate the problems which Hoylelake, Sir James Goldsmith's bid vehicle, is facing in clearing the US regulatory hurdles. But on the latest market arithmetic, BAT shares look attractive even without a bid.

Smaller companies

As this column has had cause to point out before, in hard times a lack of glamour, dullness even, can be a virtue. Nowhere is this more so than

in the so-called Smaller Companies sector.

A feature of the rash of profits warnings that are beginning to emerge is that, with the exception of obviously-troubled sectors like housebuilding and retailing, they are often coming from the kind of fast-moving, acquisitive smaller companies that geared themselves up to the blitz on the back of a glamour profile in better times.

As times get tough for large stockbrokers as well, some have been homing in on the Smaller Companies sector.

Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers, for example, after closing down most of its market-making operations, has retained part of its team to build a portfolio of 100 stocks with market capitalizations of less than £300 million on which it will concentrate its research.

Hoare Govett's Smaller Companies Index, which covers a wide spread of 1,200 stocks, threw the sector into some gloom at the start of the year when it showed a 25 per cent underperformance against the market as a whole during 1989. But two new guides arriving on investors' desks this week offer a useful antidote.

Miss Ruth Keatch at Schroder Securities sums up the general consensus. Go for proven management — ideally one that has survived the last recession in the early 1980s — and a strong balance sheet.

Look for a good spread of products and markets — avoid one-trick ponies like Filofax. Likewise avoid stylish fad sectors, like green shares, although she has a weakness for security stocks like Gardiner Group and Securiguard.

Her other tips include Hornby, following the January Toy Fair, Isotron, even excluding legislation on the gamma irradiation of food, and Memvier-Swain.

CCF Laurence Prust likes Stoddard Selkirk on a two-year view and Microgen as a recovery stock.

Over at Citicorp, Mr Chris Akers is keen on waste management stocks and businesses set to benefit from the continuing video boom, despite their sky-high ratings, and elsewhere Sterling Publishing, Acis and Scottish TV.

Racal Electronics

Last week's news that Racal Electronics is in talks on the Government Telecommunications Service contract is further evidence of the move to higher quality earnings and away from manufacturing.

As with Racal's booming cellular business there will be start-up losses which analysts believe will peak at about £20 million in two years' time. But Racal should be showing a 20 per cent margin on the business by the end of the decade.

GILT-EDGED

Why the markets will be banking on a tough Budget

The gilt-edged market's expectations of John Major are rising. The tough rhetoric on curbing inflation has fed hopes of a tough Budget.

What investors would like to see on March 20, however, is a restatement of the Government's financial strategy.

It is doubtful whether the Chancellor will be able to be specific about his medium-term fiscal and monetary targets without giving hostages to fortune.

Setting a monetary target could be especially tricky. The Government's favoured measure, M0, is likely to go on overshooting its 1-5 per cent target range this year even if inflation moderates.

Not only will the trading-down by consumers tend to boost M0 growth relative to the rate of expansion of nominal GDP, but also a further factor raising the M0 growth rate will be the increasing share of national income taken by wages and salaries as pay settlements stay high and company profits are squeezed.

If Mr Major sticks to the 1-5 per cent range as his target for M0 in the 1990-91 financial year, he is very likely to condemn himself to another year of monetary overshoot.

If he goes further and reduces the target, as many monetarist zealots are urging him to do, his problems will be even greater.

Though a monetary overshoot may not matter much if the excess growth in M0 is attributable to shifts in spending patterns, it could keep the financial markets in a state of anxiety as inflation expectations run high.

But if Mr Major were to take a realistic line and raise his M0 target, he will risk sending the wrong signal to wage negotiators.

One way out of this no-win situation would be for the Chancellor to substitute for the M0 target an objective expressed in terms of some other monetary variable.

The M2 measure has been a remarkably well-behaved statistic comprising a range of assets which would be widely regarded as transaction money. It might serve as a suitable target for government policy.

More likely, though, Mr Major will prefer to resort to the Treasury rubric that a range of monetary indicators will be watched. The danger is that the financial markets will regard the statement as too vague.

It is something they have

heard before, a strategy which leaves the Government latitude in its actions for exercising political discretion.

Before the Budget, sterling and the gilt-edged market will probably respond favourably to indications that a tough line will be taken against inflation.

Sterling is one of the few traditional high interest rate currencies where investors feel they do not have to worry about monetary relaxation in the near future.

In world markets increasingly moved by the ebb and flow of great events, it may be that interest rate differentials count for less than in the calmer days of 1989. But their impact is unlikely to have been lost altogether.

A firm exchange rate should help to contain inflation expectations in the weeks ahead.

Gilts may gain further support from hopes that the Chancellor will take fiscal action, at least to halt the decline in the PSDR. Signs of weakness in the economy will confirm the scope for improvement in the balance of payments.

After the Budget, investors may have second thoughts about gilts. If the Chancellor fails to meet the market's best expectation — and he will have a tough time succeeding — worries over inflation are likely to resurface.

Pay settlements will probably remain at least around present levels well into the summer, especially after the latest mortgage rate rise. As output growth slows, the damage at the level of unit wage costs will be increasingly evident.

The gilt market may also have been too quick to assume that this year's decline in the PSDR is mainly due to one-off factors.

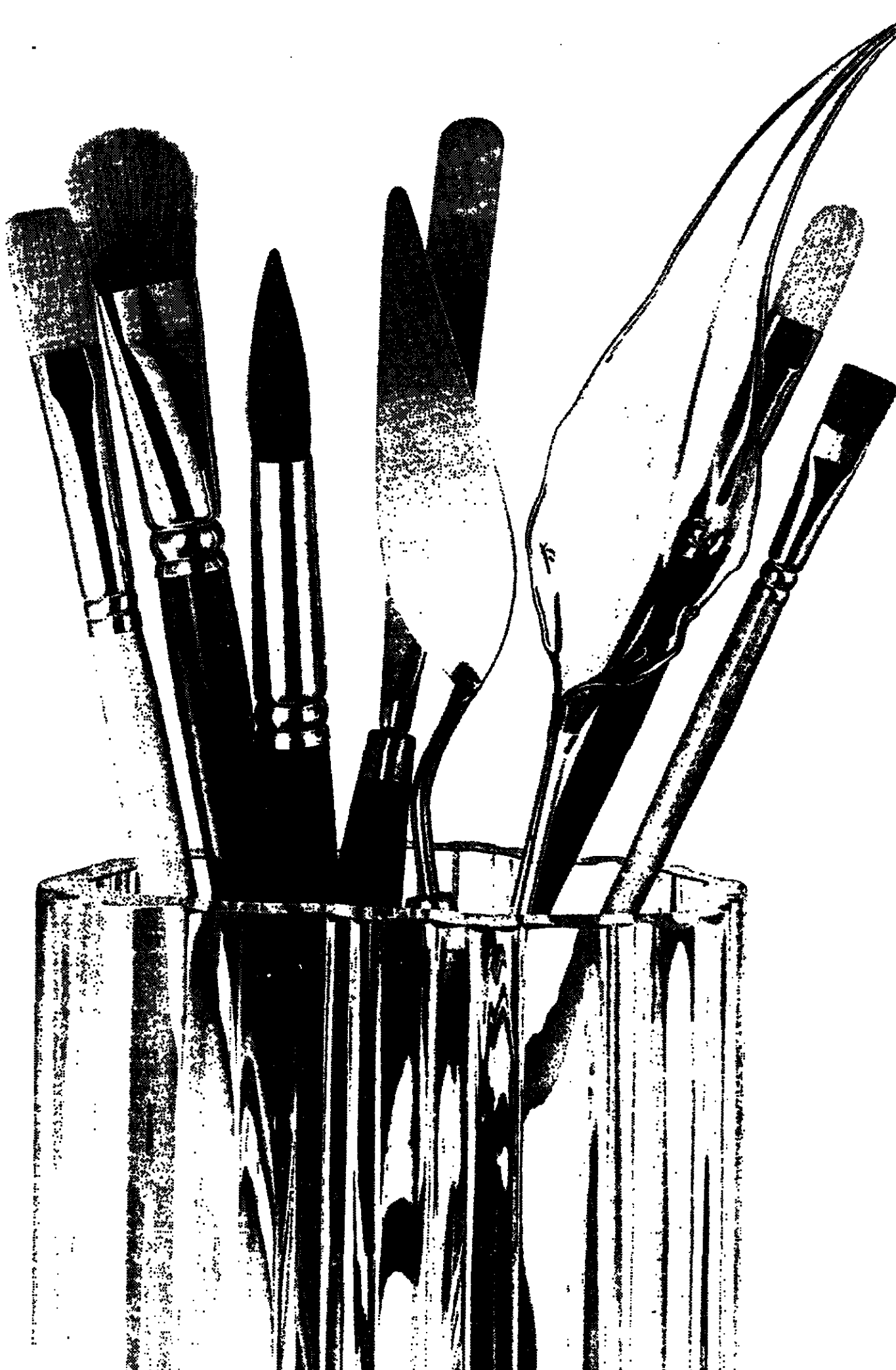
Experience has taught that once a trend in public sector finances is established it often accelerates. There could be funding shocks in store in 1990-91.

Finally, although the current account of the balance of payments is improving, a weak domestic economy could be associated with capital outflows.

With sterling under periodic downward pressure as 1990 advances, there will be little joy for gilts in the exchange rate.

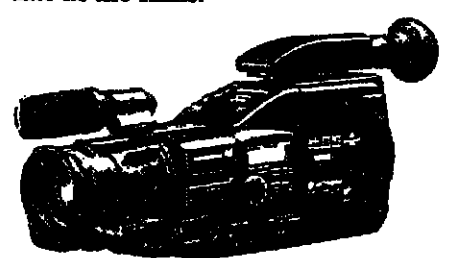
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BAT lines up key witness in bid tussle with Hoylake

From Philip Robinson, Los Angeles

Mr Bruce Bunner, the former Insurance Commissioner for California, will be called as a witness for BAT Industries this week when it opens its case in Los Angeles as part of the fight against takeover bids by Sir James Goldsmith.

Mr Bunner, the commissioner for six years, wrote the California rules, which lay down acceptable levels of debt for Californian insurance companies.

His testimony is viewed by BAT as vital. Following a successful bid for BAT, Sir James would sell Farmers, its American insurance offshoot,

for \$4.5 billion to Axa Midi Assurances, the French insurance group.

Farmers has argued that the money Axa intends to borrow to finance the Farmers acquisition and the additional \$1 billion it must raise to invest in Sir James's Hoylake Investments as part of the deal would be potentially harmful to the policyholders of Farmers.

A spokesman for Farmers said: "We regard the Californian hearing as important not just because it is the state in which we do most business, but because it is the only state

which has these debt ratios." Axa has dismissed the argument, pointing to \$9 billion worth of assets in its parent company, saying that it makes more sense to borrow at relatively low American interest rates than pay cash.

Meanwhile the formidable Madame Gilberte Beaux, personal investment bank adviser to Sir James Goldsmith for the past 20 years, has begun outlining the logic of the takeover for insurance regulators in Los Angeles.

She stands to make \$4.25 million if the deal goes through and, according to

close observers of the case, withstood three and a half days of intensive cross-examination at a similar hearing in Chicago. That will not happen in California. The insurance authorities have imposed strict time limits which give lawyers only one hour to cross-examine.

On current timing California is expected to be the first of nine states to reach a decision on the issue, which is expected by April 9. The Chicago hearing, which started last month, is still going on and a hearing in Idaho is due to start a week today.

Tiphook 'to pass £70m' in 1991

By Martin Waller

Two favourable broker's circulars singing the praises of Mr Robert Montague's Tiphook are expected this week, following its success in the nine-month battle with Sea Containers.

They are from Mr Karl Frenkelson at Warburg Securities and Mr Clive Anderson at Kitcat & Alden. Both houses are brokers to Tiphook, and they are looking for pre-tax profits in excess of £70 million for the year to end-April 1991, the first year to benefit from the Sea Containers deal.

Tiphook expects by the start of April to have control of 200,000 dry-freight containers, Sea Containers' European tank container operations, mainly for shipping chemicals, the UBS tank manufacturing business and about 5,000 road chassis in the US.

The deal, which needs only the clearance of Sea Containers' shareholders on March 15, puts Mr Montague at the head of the third biggest container group in the world, with about 8 per cent of the total fleet of 5 million containers.

The top two in the market, Genstar and Intl, both attempted to buy chunks of the Sea Containers empire, but



Hands on from day one: Robert Montague, chairman of Tiphook, soon to be third in world

their own offers are expected to be frustrated by Tiphook's purchases, agreed with Sea Containers after a grueling takeover battle.

There are no redundancy costs arising out of the deal, as Tiphook is only acquiring the containers themselves, although their previous owner will continue to help out with

administration for three months after completion.

"From day one we actually start to see the controls completely in our hands. We can double the size of our container fleet on the existing administration and management team, with some fine-tuning as far as operations and marketing are concerned,"

said Mr Montague. He expects no opposition from Genstar and Intl, both US corporations. "They realize what the world is. They know that their deals were subject to shareholder approval and also they were being used as instruments to bring to conclusion the hostile takeover for Sea Containers."

Boost for National Savings

By Jon Ashworth

National Savings took nearly £143 million into its investment account last month from new savers lured by higher rates of interest. Fixed-interest certificates proved less popular, with more than £135 million repaid.

Income bonds, which pay interest of 12.5 per cent, showed a net gain of £29.2 million, after repayments. However, the investment account turned withdrawals of £24.8 million in December into a gain of £109.9 million in receipts in January.

Capital bonds took in an extra £27.4 million in funds. The Scarborough Building Society has launched an investment account in response to last week's mortgage rate rises. Savers receive interest of 11.75 per cent on £1,000 or more, with the rate fixed for six months.

SE to prosecute insider dealers

By Sheila Gunn and Colin Narborough

Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Trade Secretary, will in the next two or three weeks activate provisions of the 1989 Companies Act to enable London's International Stock Exchange to prosecute insider dealers directly instead of handing them over to his department.

A Department of Trade and Industry spokesman said that the move would not involve any wholesale transfer of responsibility from Government to the ISE, and the DTI would retain the power to decide in each case whether to let the exchange pursue independent legal action.

The ISE, which closely monitors share dealings for possible malpractice, has long wanted such powers and will probably seek to prosecute in clear-cut cases of insider trading. More complicated cases, requiring detailed investigation, would be left to the DTI. The DTI was keen to make

clear that, in allowing the ISE to use the provisions, Mr Ridley was not going back on recent assurances to the House of Commons select committee for trade and industry, concerning City regulation.

Following persistent reports of plans to switch the DTT's watchdog role to the Securities and Investments Board, the chief City overseer, he had ruled out changes in the present regime.



Ridley: handing over cases

Hanson in talks on Peabody

By Colin Campbell

Newmont Mining Corporation, in which Hanson holds a 49 per cent stake, is holding "very preliminary and informal" talks with Hanson and others over the sale of its 55 per cent shareholding in Peabody - the largest coal producer in the United States.

On Thursday, Hanson bought out three individual minority shareholders in Peabody to give it a 45.03 per cent stake in what Sir Gordon White, chairman of Hanson's US operation, describes as "an attractive investment".

In papers filed to the US exchange authorities, Hanson states it "has not made any decisions with respect to the 45 per cent it plans to purchase (in Peabody)".

Newmont said from Denver, Colorado, that a number of options remain open, which may be the subject of future talks.

GrandMet and Elders near deal on swap

By Our City Staff

Mr Allen Sheppard, chairman of Grand Metropolitan, the food and drinks group, will today tell the annual meeting at the Grosvenor House Hotel, central London, that negotiations on a multi-million pound breweries-for-public houses swap with Elders IXL, the Australian group, are far advanced.

With urgent talks on the details of the complex deal underway, conclusion of the asset-swap could be announced on Friday when Mr John Elliott, the Australian head of the Elders empire, unveils his group's interim results.

A spokesman for GrandMet, commenting on weekend reports of an agreement, said categorically that the company had "not done any deal with Elders".

He also vigorously denied any suggestion that GrandMet was considering a rights issue in conjunction with the deal. The swap, now close to agreement, would allow GrandMet to withdraw entirely from brewing in the United Kingdom. Its Truman, Watney, Usher, Websters and Ruddells breweries would go to Elders, the Foster's larger company, in return for 5,000 public houses controlled by Elders Courage arm.

This huge public house network, with an asset value estimated at about £1.5 billion, would roughly double the number of public houses GrandMet controls, at the same time providing a solution acceptable to the British regulatory authorities.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on the beer industry last year set a limit of 2,000 on the number of tied houses a single brewer could hold, signalling a restructuring of the industry. Despite the advanced state of the asset-swap negotiations, it is believed that a number of key issues remain unresolved. With more than £1 billion of debt attached to the Courage public houses, some way would have to be found of balancing the deal.

One possibility would be for GrandMet to obtain a stake in Elders' international brewing activities, though it is unclear how this would be viewed by the British competition authorities.

Ahead of any announcement, Elders is expected to dispose of its 23 per cent holding in Scottish & Newcastle Breweries. The Government has ordered Elders to reduce its stake to under 10 per cent by mid-year.

ECONOMIC VIEW

Major juggling act on Budget's fiscal sums

January figures for Britain's public sector finances have helped to bring into better focus the fiscal position faced by John Major, the Chancellor, as he enters the final four weeks of Budget preparation. By the time the next set of figures becomes available, the important decisions will have been taken.

City estimates of the result for the public sector debt repayment in the present year are mostly in the £7 billion-£8 billion range. This is way below the £14 billion forecast in last year's Budget and also lower than the revised forecast of £12.5 billion in the autumn statement. On face value it would suggest a tough task for Mr Major if he wants to stick to the £10 billion surplus sketched in for 1990-91 in last year's Budget.

However, several of the factors acting to reduce the Budget surplus in the present year are unlikely to recur next year. Privatization proceeds this year will turn out nearly £1 billion below the forecast £5 billion, mainly because of the "green dowry" for water. If the electricity sale goes ahead as planned, there should be no problem in meeting the £5 billion target for 1990-91.

As Nigel Lawson indicated last June, the incentive to people to contract out of the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme and take out personal pensions has been more successful than expected, reducing the revenue from national insurance contributions. Some of the reduction has been offset by higher-than-forecast earnings growth, but there is still an adverse effect on the PSDR of about £1 billion. As the cut-off date for rebates of NICs to people taking out personal pensions was April 6, 1989, this will not be a factor next year.

Local authorities also take some responsibility for the shrinking surplus.

New controls on capital spending come in from April and the authorities appear in time-honoured fashion to have been anticipating the event by spending up to, and beyond, the limit before the shutters come down. The new systems, not only for capital spending but also for current, make the outlook highly uncertain but one can say over-spending is unlikely to occur for the same reasons as it has this year.

All this means that the "base case" for next year's surplus should be well above the result for the current year - perhaps by £3 billion, other things being equal. In assessing the tightness of the Chancellor's fiscal stance, markets will have to take this into account.

On the other hand the size of the surplus will be affected both by the slowdown in the economy and by the rate of inflation. On balance this is likely to mean a lower surplus next year as spending slows further, profits decline and social security payments rise.

How these factors will net out is difficult to tell. An attractive option might be to stick to the £10 billion figure in last year's medium-term financial strategy. If the Chancellor wants to provide support for a firm monetary policy, and to push interest rates down sooner rather than later, there is clearly a case for breaking with tradition and planning for a surplus which is larger than the expected result for the current year. Compared with the £14 billion figure for 1988, he will still be getting closer to a balanced Budget.

Budd v Walters on ERM

The key argument advanced by Sir Alan Walters and others against British membership of the European Monetary System has been that to keep the pound in its appointed range against the mark, British interest rates might have to fall to a dangerously low level.

If holders of sterling were guaranteed a fixed exchange rate against the mark, everyone would pile into sterling to enjoy the higher interest rates available on sterling paper. The Government would be forced to cut rates, which would take off the counter-inflationary brakes and start a new boom rolling.

While accepting the argument in principle, Alan Budd, in the latest edition of *Barclays Review*, suggests that in practice the risk is not great - or will not be by the middle of next year once inflation has fallen closer to German levels. By then the inflation differential on manufactured goods,

which Professor Budd takes as a proxy of traded goods, could have fallen from its present 2 per cent to something close to zero.

An interest rate differential will still be needed to compensate for the continuing difference in the underlying rates of inflation given that Britain will still be close to the bottom of its business cycle while the German economy is likely to continue growing rapidly. Professor Budd suggests that markets might require a premium on British assets similar to the present Italian differential of 4.5 percentage points over German rates. By the middle of next year the difference between British and German interest rates may have narrowed from its present 7 percentage points to around that level. On that basis the threat to monetary policy would not be great.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

P&D Percy calls it a day

In what appears to have been yet another clash of culture and management styles between the British and the Swiss, Keith Percy, one of the most talented fund managers in the country, has resigned from UBS-Phillips & Drew. Percy, aged 45, and executive chairman of Phillips & Drew Fund Management - as well as chief executive of UBS Asset Management, the fund management holding company, and chairman of Phil-drew Ventures - shocked his colleagues by handing in his notice on Thursday, after 23 years with the firm. A former P&D partner, he first rose to prominence as an analyst, covering almost every sector in turn before being made head of research in 1978 and then being voted the top UK equity analyst in the City, in the Extel survey, for four consecutive years. In 1983 he switched to fund management and has taken the firm from seventh place in the league table of pension fund managers to second. In terms of performance they have been among the top pension fund managers for three years and funds have grown from £2.5 billion to £17 billion since he has been at the helm. "I certainly want to stay in fund management or the securities industry," Percy tells me from his Essex home. "I would quite like to do it all over again." He is being replaced by fellow UBS Asset Management director Paul Meredith.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Sweet dreams in Essex

Regular commuters from Essex will agree that a journey on British Rail's lines out of Liverpool Street is often an unforgettable experience. Journalists were therefore surprised to hear that Alan Sugar, chairman of Amstrad, last week denied ever having entertained them at briefings over the company's figures at its Brentwood offices. Most surprised of all was *The Times* correspondent, for whom the journey to the last interim

results briefing exactly a year ago was especially memorable. British Rail's lines out of Liverpool Street have misdirected him to Colchester. But Sugar is adamant. No, he has never, ever, had journalists at his Brentwood offices to discuss his figures. "With respect, Mr Sugar, perhaps you are mistaken," my man queried. Definitely not, he replied. The said correspondent is now wondering if he could possibly have imagined the whole hideous day.

Jane's place

Having drawn the short straw - to cover the Guinness trial - Jane Alexander, a reporter for the Channel 4 programme *Business Daily*, arrived for the first day at Southwark Crown Court to find the press bench

full. Whilst a dismayed court official investigated the situation, since the number of seats should have corresponded with the number of press passes issued - one member of the Fourth Estate was subsequently ejected - Alexander was offered a seat in another area of the court. Ernest Saunders volunteered his own chair... in the dock. His offer was declined.

● In view of City observations that Hanson, that billion dollar industrial group, is unnecessarily brief when giving financial details in its quarterly profits statements, perhaps Lord Hanson should be reminded of an advert for the company which appeared in December 1937 and was republished in its 1988 annual report. For Hanson's battery subsidiary, Ever Ready, the headline ran: "It's a shame to keep them in the dark!"

Young off forms

Cracking one or two painfully old City jokes - for example, about Chinese walls coupled with an observation that despite his many years in the building trade he could not recall ever having built one - Lord Young, these days deputy chairman of the Conservative Party, was greeted with a mixture of cheers and boos as the guest speaker at the Society of Investment Analysts' annual dinner at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London last week. Complaining about the Financial Services Act and the number of forms he has had to fill in in his new position as a director of Salomon Brothers Inc, and chairman of its European operation, he was deemed to be only half-joking when he quipped: "I thought to myself, who the hell was the Secretary of State who introduced it?" He then went on to compare the Britain of 1979 with the present day. "No way can you consider these two worlds as being the same country." But his ill-chosen example that: "With Nissan and Toyota, we will soon be manufacturing as many cars as we buy," was greeted with muted calls from the floor of "Rover, Rover..." All in all, and despite numerous rowdy delaying tactics, the peer spoke for barely 10½ minutes, leaving brokers and fund managers, who had laid their usual bets on the length of his speech, badly out of pocket - the average estimate had been 18 minutes. Perhaps he really has tired of being a politician.

Carol Leonard

The Talk of the Town

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recovery...
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video...
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Sutton...
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No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Padang	Motor/Aircraft	
2	Scholes	Chemicals	
3	Chemical	Chemicals	
4	BVI	Chemicals	
5	Cardo Eng	Industrial A-D	
6	Denora	Property	
7	Prop Security	Property	
8	Ricardo Eng	Industrial A-D	
9	General Motor	Motor/Aircraft	
10	Reilly	Leisure	
11	Helical Bar	Property	
12	Enrothern	Electricals	
13	Coca Virella (as)	Drugs/Stores	
14	Pisons (as)	Industrial A-D	
15	Koss	Electricals	
16	Scotronic	Electricals	
17	Vesta	Industrial A-D	
18	Land Sec (as)	Property	
19	Alfred-Lynn (as)	Property	
20	Bons (as)	Industrial A-D	
21	APV	Industrial A-D	
22	Egerton Trust	Property	
23	Church	Drugs/Stores	
24	Honda Motor	Motor/Aircraft	
25	Hutchinson	Industrial A-D	
26	AB Elect	Electricals	
27	Brown (N)	Drugs/Stores	
28	Chips	Industrial A-D	
29	Ashley (Lynn)	Drugs/Stores	
30	Crax (as)	Property	
31	Cambridge	Electricals	
32	Sheldrake	Property	
33	Wace	Property/Finance/Adv	
34	Grand Met (as)	Property	
35	Shell (as)	Oil/Gas	
36	Young (H)	Industrial A-D	
37	ASDA Group (as)	Food	
38	Beaufort	Industrial A-D	
39	BET Out (as)	Industrial A-D	
40	Polytype	Industrial A-D	
41	Whitbread 'A' (as)	Breweries	
42	Warner	Property	
43	Argyll (as)	Food	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 on Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock	Share	Price	Change	Div	Yield	Gain or Loss
1275	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1276	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1277	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1278	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1279	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1280	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1281	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1282	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1283	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1284	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1285	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1286	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1287	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1288	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1289	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1290	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1291	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1292	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1293	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1294	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1295	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1296	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1297	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1298	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1299	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1300	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Stock	Share	Price	Change	Div	Yield	Gain or Loss
1301	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1302	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1303	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1304	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1305	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1306	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1307	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1308	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1309	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1310	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1311	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1312	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1313	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1314	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1315	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1316	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1317	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1318	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1319	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1320	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Stock	Share	Price	Change	Div	Yield	Gain or Loss
1321	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1322	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1323	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1324	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1325	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1326	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1327	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1328	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1329	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1330	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1331	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1332	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1333	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1334	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1335	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1336	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1337	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1338	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1339	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1340	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

UNDATED

Stock	Share	Price	Change	Div	Yield	Gain or Loss
1341	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1342	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1343	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1344	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1345	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1346	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1347	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1348	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1349	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1350	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1351	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1352	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1353	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1354	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1355	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1356	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1357	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1358	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1359	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1360	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDEX-LINKED

Stock	Share	Price	Change	Div	Yield	Gain or Loss
1361	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1362	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1363	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1364	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1365	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1366	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1367	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1368	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1369	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1370	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1371	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1372	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1373	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1374	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1375	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1376	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1377	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1378	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1379	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1380	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

Stock	Share	Price	Change	Div	Yield	Gain or Loss
1381	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1382	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1383	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1384	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1385	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1386	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1387	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1388	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1389	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1390	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1391	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1392	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1393	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1394	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1395	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1396	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1397	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1398	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1399	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1400	100	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalization and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 12. Dealings end February 23. Contango day February 26. Settlement day March 5.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks.

Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
2731m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2732m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2733m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2734m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2735m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2736m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2737m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2738m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2739m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2740m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2741m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2742m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2743m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2744m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2745m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2746m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2747m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2748m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2749m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2750m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2751m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2752m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2753m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2754m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2755m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2756m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2757m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2758m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2759m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2760m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2761m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2762m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2763m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2764m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2765m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2766m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2767m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2768m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2769m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2770m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2771m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2772m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2773m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2774m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2775m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2776m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2777m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2778m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2779m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2780m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2781m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2782m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2783m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2784m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2785m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2786m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2787m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2788m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2789m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2790m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2791m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2792m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2793m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2794m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2795m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2796m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2797m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2798m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2799m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2800m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2801m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2802m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2803m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2804m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2805m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2806m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2807m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2808m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2809m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2810m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2811m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2812m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2813m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2814m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2815m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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2817m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2818m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2819m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2820m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2821m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2822m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2823m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2824m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2825m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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2832m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2833m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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2835m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2836m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2837m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2838m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2839m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2840m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2841m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2842m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2843m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2844m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2845m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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2847m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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2850m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2851m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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2860m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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2862m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2863m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2864m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2865m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2866m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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2876m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2877m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2878m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2879m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2880m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2881m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2882m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2883m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2884m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2885m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2886m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2887m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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2890m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2891m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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2893m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2894m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2895m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2896m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2897m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2898m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2899m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2900m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2901m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2902m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2903m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2904m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2905m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2906m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2907m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2908m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2909m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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2912m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2913m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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2923m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2924m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2925m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2926m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2927m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2928m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2929m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2930m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2931m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2932m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2933m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2934m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2935m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2936m Net Asset	291	0.00	0.00		

Untangling Europe's crossed wires

A report to be published next month will be compulsory reading for Europe's snowballing mobile communications industry. Drawn up by the Mobile Strategic Review of the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI), the report tries to impose a set of priorities on a sector in which development has been dramatic and largely unstructured.

Over the past two decades, mobile communication has risen from obscurity to a state which John Carrington, managing director of Mercury Personal Communications, says approaches that of consumer electronics.

The technology is viewed by experts such as Olof Lundberg, director general of International Maritime Satellite (INMARSAT), as the critical element in the achievement of personal communications.

In the age of "one man, one phone", terminals will be available at a fraction of the price of today's mobile hardware and will offer inexpensive, high-quality connections.

With a 10.7 oz offering, Motorola holds the record for the smallest cellular terminal.

Europe leads the world in mobile communication, yet a lack of uniformity is threatening this position, John Williamson reports

The company's European corporate vice-president, Don Burns, is predicting that the cost of its Personal Communications Network (PCN) successor will drop below £100 by the late-1990s.

By that time, telephone numbers will be allotted to individuals. A number will be portable throughout the world and will last an owner's lifetime.

Unfortunately, "one man, one phone" is not yet the same as "one world, one phone". As the benefits of communication on demand have become more apparent, mobile products and services have multiplied at a bewildering rate.

People on the move can stay in touch using a variety of public and private paging systems, analogue cellular phones, domestic cordless telephones, cordless payphone terminals and several types of private mobile radio network.

In the 1990s, the choice will include digital cellular and cordless telephones, on-site short-range radio, PCNs, broadband communicators and satellite-based paging and messaging services. Satellites have already been used to provide airline passengers with telephone services, and both INMARSAT and the European Telecommunications Satellite organization are planning long-range systems for lorries and other vehicles.

The danger is that this proliferation of incompatible mobile technologies and services will increase pressure on finite research and development resources, make greater demands on the already overcrowded airwaves and, ultimately, dilute potential market volumes.

The establishment of the ETSI special review body in 1989 was a reflection of concern at regional level and



Ted Towasend, principal keeper of the Needles lighthouse, tests the world's smallest phone

an acknowledgement that Europe, as the new world leader in mobile communications, has more than its share of problems stemming from lack of uniformity.

As well as pioneering research into, and commercial exploitation of, different types of mobile communication,

Europe has experienced considerable divergence and incompatibility within service categories. There are five main types of cellular systems in operation and even different implementations of the same systems in different locations; the United States and Japan have a system each.

European telecommunications' regulatory regimes vary from location to location. The UK has licensed two national operators of cellular telephone service, three of PCNs and four of Telepoint; the country also boasts numerous radio paging and trunked mobile radio operators. In Spain, all

mobile services are furnished by the government-owned telephone company.

Behind this sort of disparity are vastly different aspirations for mobile communications. Rodney Stewart, a consultant, says that some countries see the mobile sector as a "sop" to the prevailing notion of telecommunications deregulation. John Carrington agrees. "Mobile communications is seen in Europe and elsewhere as a means of having competition without attacking the postal and telecommunications providers."

By contrast, the UK has been motivated by both the desire to expand local market volumes in cellular telephones, paging, Band III mobile radio and Telepoint, and to provide comprehensive competition to British Telecom. The nomination last year of three PCN licences was intended, in part, to beef up the challenge to BT's continuing supremacy in domestic telephone services.

The UK's attitude to mobile communications in the 1980s has not always endeared it to other Europeans and has led to charges that Britain's real aim is to hijack regional mobile efforts.

To avoid further controversy, the UK has handed over the task of determining its PCN standard to the ETSI. "It was prudent to let them have a view on it," says Burns, of Motorola, a partner company in the Mercury PCN consortium.

Transforming the region's patchwork of mobile services into a homogenous whole is one of the aims of the architects of the post-1992 single European telecommunications market.

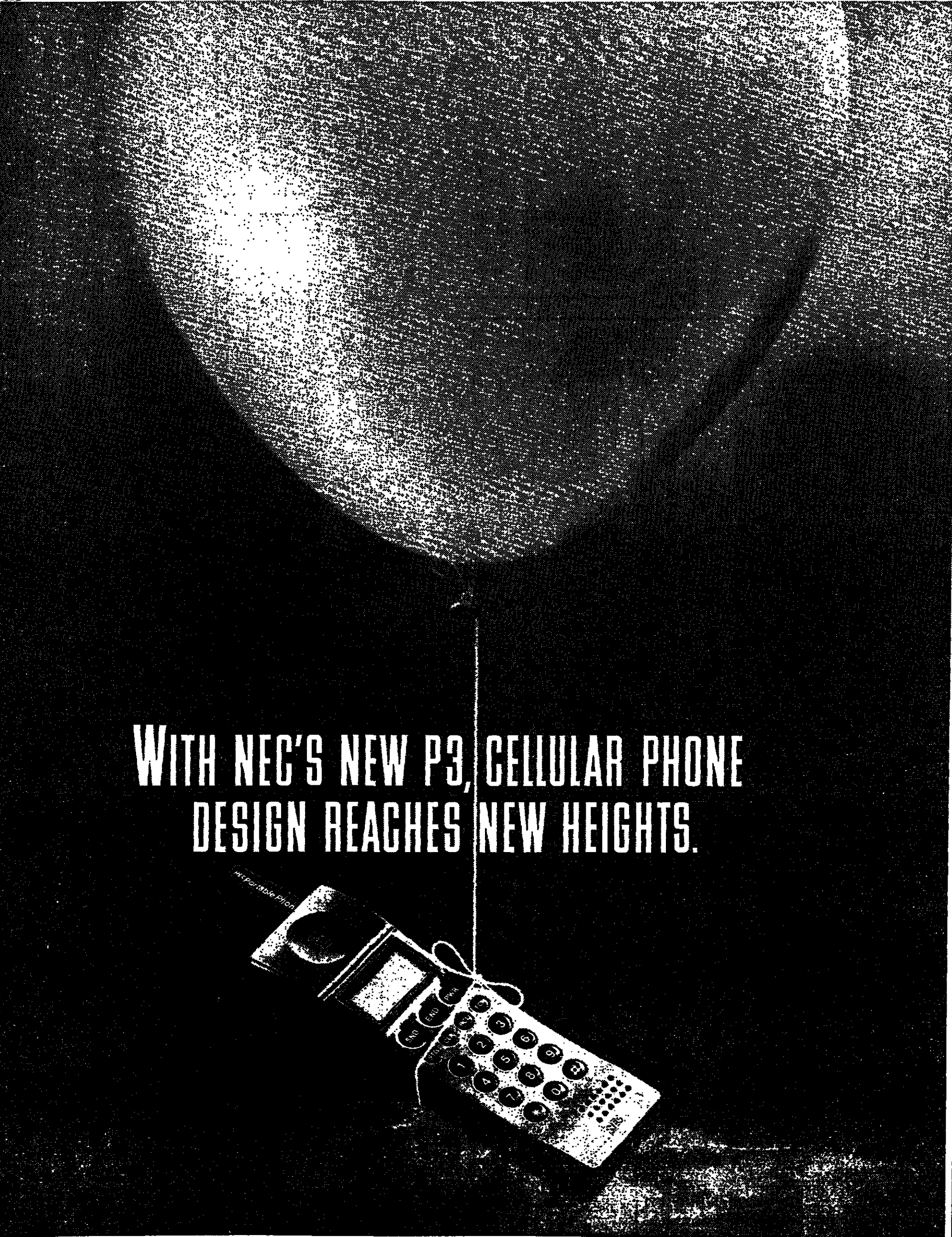
This path will not be without obstacles. It is also unlikely that the range of different and incompatible mobile services will decline greatly this decade, despite inevitable casualties.

But integration and convergence between different mobile types, and between mobile and wireline networks, will take place in the next few years. This is expected to result in a universal mobile telecommunications service (UMTS) early next century.

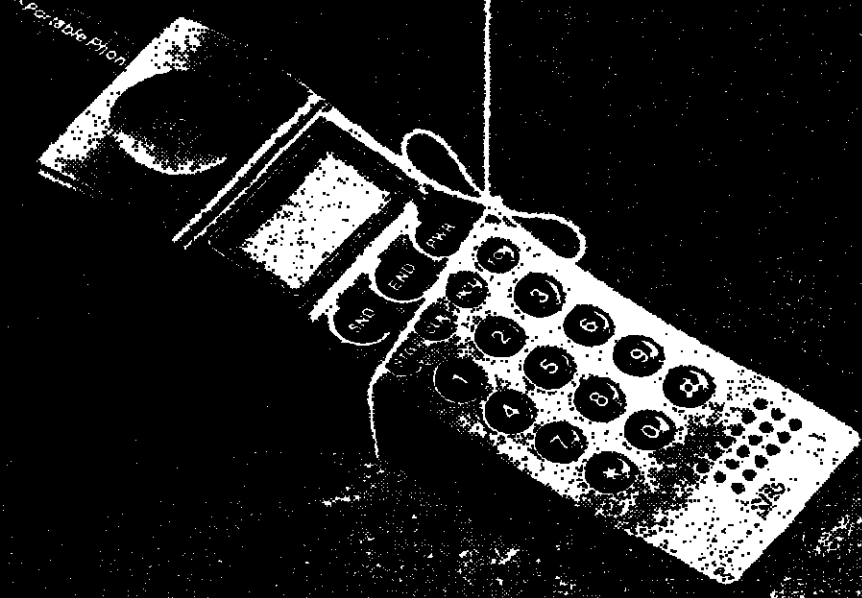
With the help of regional research projects and the strategic initiatives of ETSI, Europe's chances of beating the world look good.

● The author is international editor, Telephony (Chicago).

CC Computers and Communications



WITH NEC'S NEW P3, CELLULAR PHONE DESIGN REACHES NEW HEIGHTS.



Announcing NEC's advanced new portable phone. Around 400g of high-tech equipment in a compact little frame.

There is no other similar sized pocket phone that will let you talk for 80 long minutes on just one battery as the P3 will. Nor can any other match its 18 hour stand-by life.

Naturally, with NEC's in-car adaptor kit (available with the

optional booster unit) the P3 can be used as a car phone.

And using ETACS it'll give you access to some 1320 channels in all major cities throughout the U.K. How does so much technology fit into something so small?

Only NEC know. For further information ring: -FREEPHONE NEC MOBILES.

NEC



Chris Gent, of Vodafone: investment has reduced complaints

Mobile services struggle to meet user demand

Congestion and disconnection are still the twin banes of the mobile user

Mobile phones are used by almost a million people in the UK — a figure higher than the most optimistic predictions. But with the rise in the number of users has come a corresponding increase in complaints about service quality. So much so that Sir Bryan Carsberg, director general of Telecommunications, has begun an investigation into the quality of service of the two cellular radio networks run by Cellnet and Racal Vodafone.

The problems appear considerable. A survey by the Telecommunications Users' Association (TUA) in October 1988 showed that about 70 per cent of members who used the cellular network were unhappy with the service. The situation has improved, but not enough, according to Vivienne Peters, TUA chief executive.

"Members still complain that service is not available as advertised," she says.

Typically, cellular users say they are unable to operate car and hand portable telephones because of congestion, or are cut off during conversations. Being cut off is particularly annoying because it means extra cost for less than satisfactory service, she says.

"A call which should have lasted three minutes, but was cut off twice and redialled could add 33 per cent to the price."

The industry admits there have been problems. Chris Gent, managing director of Racal Vodafone, says the cellular service has been a victim of its own success. In November 1988, the cellular systems ran out of capacity. "That meant we dropped behind the number of new subscribers by 8 to 10 per cent," he says. "Now we have brought capacity ahead of subscriber demand."

Except for problems at the busiest times and at particular locations, more than 90 per cent of calls are now set up first time and are held until

completion, Gent says. "We have invested more than £140 million in the network this year, which brings our overall investment to over £400 million. What people do not realize is that though we are a big and profitable company, we plough the profits back into the network; we pay out a minimum dividend."

Responding to Peters' criticism, Gent says that Vodafone handles "well over 20 million calls a week. That's more than Mercury — and we drop only 5 per cent."

He says there need not be any running-up of bills. "If a call drops after three minutes, the only penalty is the cost of the first minute. This can be got back by calling the operator, who will reconnect the call and not charge for the first minute."

Colin Aitken, distribution director for Motorola, a car-phone manufacturer, says complaints about cellular service quality are exaggerated. "We have to remember that carphones are radio telephones — you cannot compare them to ordinary telephones."

Ian White, managing editor of *Mobile Business*, a new monthly publication on mobile communications, says: "There is a lot of ignorance around when it comes to cellular. A lot of the problems are caused by bad installation, particularly of aerials. 'For cosmetic reasons, people often want their aerials at disadvantageous places. Then they blame the operator for poor service'."

Sandra Richards, marketing manager at NEC, is aware that complaints about service quality, although beyond her control, affect the image of the company's products.

There has, however, been no resulting decline in sales. "People complain about the quality, but they can't do without the service," she says.

Peter Parton

NETWORK CONGESTION

4-week period beginning	CELLNET		VODAFONE	
	Working day*	Busy hour*	Working day	Busy hour
July 31, 1989	3.7%	6.0%	3.4%	6.0%
Aug 28, 1989	5.2%	7.9%	4.2%	8.0%
Sept 25, 1989	7.3%	12.6%	4.7%	10.0%

* 8am-6pm ** Normally mid to late afternoon

Source: Oof

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Base system is a cheaper option

Agreement on a common standard has offered the Telepoint cordless telephone system the advantage of consistency in a field plagued by diversity and misunderstanding

Telepoint is a revolutionary low-cost system which is expected to bring mobile communications within the reach of a large part of the population. Developed in Britain, it is based on second-generation, cordless-telephone CT2 technology.

Subscribers will be able to make calls using lightweight pocket handsets within 200yds of a Telepoint base station. Base stations will be installed in shopping centres, railway stations and other areas where people make phone calls.

Users will need a Telepoint handset, which will cost about £200, and a charger or batteries, the cost of which will vary according to the handset chosen. They will need to subscribe to one of the services, involving a one-off enrolment fee of about £25 and a similar quarterly subscription charge. Call charges are slightly higher than those made through call boxes.

However, according to John Copey, director of marketing at Mercury Callpoint, "By the setting-up of a flat-rate call structure for local and long distance calls, Mercury Callpoint is effectively cutting the phone bills of the business user. Though our rates are

slightly more expensive than call-box rates so far as local calls are concerned, the savings made on long-distance calls more than compensate for this - resulting in a cheaper, and much more convenient, alternative to using public payphones for business purposes."

When the four licences were awarded in January 1989, there were two compatible rival Telepoint technologies. It was made clear that all operators should support a common air interface (CAI) standard by the end of 1990 to ensure customers had the widest choice of equipment and that users of one network could use the networks of other companies.

Though the CAI standard has been agreed to by all interested parties, three of the licensees, Mercury Callpoint, Phonepoint and Zonephone, launched services without waiting for CAI equipment to become available. Their aim was to capture a larger slice of the emerging market.

Phonepoint's managing director, Barry Moxley, is confident the market will lift off soon. "The interest generated by the launch of Phonepoint has been excellent. Many thousands of potential customers have asked for infor-



Tim Lowry, of GPT Mobile Systems, with his company's handset: the UK has led the way in introduction of Telepoint systems

mation on the service," he says.

Research shows that the main reason for the limited sales is a perceived lack of Phonepoints.

The three operators will have to introduce dual-standard base stations to support handsets for the CAI and their proprietary protocols.

Harry Bibby, commercial director of Ferranti Credit

phone, says: "Ferranti will install dual-standard Zonephone base stations from the middle of the year."

"This will give all CAI-compatible handset users the chance to subscribe to an established network in London and on feeder routes and still maintain an expanding service to existing customers using proprietary protocol handsets."

Peter Wright, managing director of BYPS Communications, which is deferring its launch until CAI equipment becomes available, says: "Other networks have said that they will develop their networks to support the CAI standard, as well as their own proprietary systems."

"We believe that these networks, by having a dual standard operating at the same

time, will run the risk of confusing the consumer."

"Given the Department of Trade and Industry's backing on products ranging from hi-fi equipment and suits, to jewellery and air tickets. Even a mobile phone dealer is likely to offer you a free car phone rather than risk losing your business."

The more expensive, but increasingly popular, hand portable models are also being offered in deals.

A survey in the Bristol area showed a low price of £325 for a hand-portable cellular phone - more than £1,000 less than its nearest European rival and even lower than rival products in the United States, where business equipment prices are usually much lower.

British dealers can offer low prices because of a subsidies system that begins with the network operators. Cellnet and Racal Vodafone, and filters through to users.

Edna Hardiman, divisional manager of communications at BIS Macintosh, a UK-based management consultancy, says: "To encourage new subscribers, network operators pay bonuses to air-time resellers. Air-time resellers pay bonuses to equipment dealers. These bonuses are used to subsidize equipment prices."

With bonuses to equipment dealers at £400 or more, dealers buying in car phones at £300 can give them away and still make £100.

There are drawbacks, however. User groups, such as the Telecommunications Users' Association, say cellular subscribers have to pay for their "free" equipment with higher standing charges and usage costs, expensive maintenance deals and long minimum contracts for services.

The magazine *What To Buy*

'As Telepoint services are starting to cover Britain, other countries are showing a growing interest in the technology of Telepoint'

the service will be launched in late spring. The handsets, base stations and network equipment for this are being supplied by GPT in a deal worth £30 million.

Tim Lowry, director of GPT Mobile Systems, says production of the CAI equipment will begin in March so it appears there will not be much, if any, slippage.

Orbitel is well advanced with its development of CAI products. Richard Mendelsohn, the company's marketing director, says his company will stage the first public demonstration of its Contact handset on March 1. Orbital is planning national field trials this spring to launch products in the autumn, he says.

At the same time as Telepoint services are beginning to roll out across the UK, other countries are taking a growing interest in the technology. Guernsey Telecom has signed an exclusive agreement with BYPS, and Helsinki Telephone is evaluating bids, one of which was submitted by GPT, for a commercial Telepoint system which will operate through 1,000 base stations.

GPT has recently won an order worth £1.3 million from OY Hietel AB for 5,000 handsets and single-line base stations for the domestic and business markets. These CAI handsets can be used as cordless telephones or with a Telepoint.

UK manufacturers and operators have signed an IPR (intellectual property rights) agreement. They will license companies in countries where the CAI Telepoint standard has been adopted to manufacture CAI equipment.

The CAI specification has been submitted to the European Telecommunications Standards Institution (ETSI) and the European PTIs have agreed to sign a memorandum of understanding supporting this as the leading CT2 standard.

The only similar technology in Europe is the Digital European Cordless Telephone system, supported by Sweden's Ericsson. Because this is not at an advanced stage and has not been submitted to ETSI, it appears likely that there will be a single Telepoint standard, and not the large number which dogs most areas of innovation.

Adrian Morant

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PHILIPS

The bargain phone offers that could make you pay later

Incentives bring in the business, but some retailers are wary of the bonuses that make them possible

If you like a bargain, Britain's cellular business is for you. Free car phones are being given as incentives on products ranging from hi-fi equipment and suits, to jewellery and air tickets. Even a mobile phone dealer is likely to offer you a free car phone rather than risk losing your business.

The more expensive, but increasingly popular, hand portable models are also being offered in deals.

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With bonuses to equipment dealers at £400 or more, dealers buying in car phones at £300 can give them away and still make £100.

There are drawbacks, however. User groups, such as the Telecommunications Users' Association, say cellular subscribers have to pay for their "free" equipment with higher standing charges and usage costs, expensive maintenance deals and long minimum contracts for services.

The magazine *What To Buy*

For Business has also expressed concern. Julian Lloyd, its publisher, says: "Cellular is a booming, highly competitive market, where big profits are to be made."

"Unfortunately, as is often the case in development markets, the level of service and customer care is not all it might be."

The industry is worried about its image. The network operators, equipment makers and larger air-time resellers want to see subsidies abolished.

This need is becoming more urgent as equipment prices fall, says Colin Aitken, distribution director for Motorola, the equipment maker and service supplier.

"As margins slip, so do dealers' standards of after-sales service," he says. "The dealer who is making only 30 per cent of £100 cannot afford to provide a great deal of after-sales service."

While user groups are concerned about bad practice by dealers, the industry is noting an increase in such activity by customers, particularly those who get their car phones free as an inducement to buy another product.

Roger Frye, managing director of Talkland International, an air-time reseller, and secretary of the Independent Cellular Retailers' Federation, says: "If somebody can walk away with a free phone, will they have thought whether they need it, or whether they will be able to pay the bills?"

"In theory, it makes no difference whether they pay for it or not, but psychologically there is a big difference."

Frye wants lower subsidies offered to dealers. His company recently cut its connection commission by £50 and is to announce a further £50 cut soon.

These cuts, which are being implemented by other air-time resellers, will force dealers to raise prices and, Frye says, will probably eliminate the free car phone as an incentive to buy another product. He adds: "It is hard to argue that it is in subscribers' interests to pay more for equipment, but I think it is true. It makes more sense to have to pay it up-front than to have it hauled out in dribs and drabs."

Peter Purton

CELLULAR TELEPHONE COSTS, 1989

	In-car mobile price £	Hand-held portable price £	Annual subscription £	Annual spending on calls £
Belgium	1900	n/a	274	300
France	1900	3600	612	588
W Germany	1850	2700	480	1320
Netherlands	1250	n/a	300	520
Italy	1420	n/a	924	300
Spain	1500	n/a	550	450
Sweden	650	1650	150	480
Britain	250	630	300	550

Source: MZA, The European Telecommunications Market 1989

TOP 10 CELLULAR SCAMS

■ Discounts on equipment prices are often a cover for jacked-up call charges - call units should last one minute and cost a maximum of 33p at peak rate, 25p at cheap rate.

■ Installation should cost £75, regardless of the car model. Check that existing holes are used wherever possible and that cables are hidden and not laid under places that get a lot of wear.

■ Billing should begin with successful connection. Beware of those who start billing as soon as you press the "send" button.

■ Leases can tie you up for three years or more and make it difficult to change airtime reseller - it may be simpler to buy equipment outright.

■ Half-minute billing is the industry standard - watch out for those charging in one-



minute increments, and make sure the call duration and network units used are both listed on itemized bills.

■ Itemized billing is worth having and any dealer should be able to provide it.

■ "Free of charge" announcements such as "The subscriber you have called is busy" or "Lines are busy, please try later" may be charged for by some distributors - so watch out.

■ Reconnection charges can be extravagant. A growing bad debt problem has made some dealers quick to cut off subscribers who do not pay promptly - and some dealers may charge up to £500 for reconnection.

■ Maintenance on cellular radios is minimal, but some dealers may try to tie you into expensive service cover plans.

○ Source: What To Buy For Business, 11, Kings Road, London SW13 4RP, 01-730 0473.

هكذا من الأصل

Shock-horror tactics are not the answer to ridding our schools of drug abuse, say two teachers who are operating a wider, more sensitive approach that involves parents

quillizers by parents, possibly a mother, which might cause problems for a youngster, but we do have to be careful. An insensitive teacher could do harm between pupil and parent, or school and parent. But some adults are ill-informed and undervalue the influence they have on their children."

Hoskins, the former head of the upper school in an 11-18 mixed comprehensive, was originally appointed as drug advisory teacher but has expanded his brief in keeping with revised thinking by the Government. The aim now is to include drugs as part of a general attack on smoking and alcohol aimed at showing how it affects behaviour, and for there to be a closer link between social workers, doctors and the police.

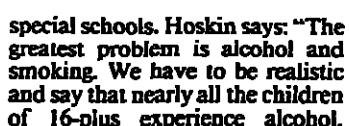
The need for the work was underlined by a report from the schools inspectors earlier this year on drugs education in 10 Liverpool primary schools. The inspectors said that many children had a "precocious familiarity with activities surrounding the use of drugs in their local community". One head spoke of drugs sold openly from a car outside the school nursery department.

The inspectors also underlined a dilemma for all teachers when they said that schools feared that drugs education could encourage experimenting.

Hoskin is not impressed by the argument: "There is no evidence that if teachers handle drugs information in a responsible way children are led to misuse them."

Alan Howarth, the Education and Science Minister responsible for drugs education in schools, is concerned about the loss of "childhood innocence" but convinced of the need for the anti-drug programme: "It is important to help children to have the maturity not to give in to the first person who approaches them."

Wise and Hoskin receive about 70,000 a year from the Government to deal with 262 primary schools, 43 secondary and 16



Youth Training Scheme, who said: "Most of them had difficulty in accepting that caffeine is a drug. All but two of them were wrong about the question on women and alcoholism. Most of them did not know much about cannabis, although quite a few claimed to smoke it regularly."

Most of the boys in the group said they had been involved in glue-sniffing when they were younger but gave the wrong answers to the questions concern-

Wise says that nothing should be left unfinished: "The thing you fear is that people will hold one-off events and that the wormeaters will

events and that the youngsters will not be prepared for what they are to be shown or told, or that teachers do not follow up or resolve issues raised. Where you

are dealing with people's health or well-being you cannot afford too many false starts."

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EDUCATIONAL

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POSTS

HATFIELD POLYTECHNIC

SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

HEAD OF DIVISION AND PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

Applications are invited for the post of Head of the Division of Psychology which will be available from 1 September 1990, following the retirement of Professor J J Cowley.

The Division, which is made up of 18 academic staff, manages an undergraduate Honours degree in Psychology (full time) and a Master's degree in Occupational Psychology (full time and part time). It also makes substantial contributions in both psychology and philosophy to undergraduate Honours degrees in Combined Studies and Humanities. It has a significant research record and is recognised, in terms of postgraduate research studentships, by ESRC.

An outstanding individual is now sought to lead the Division through a significant phase of new development in which collaboration with both industry and Health Authorities will be of paramount importance. The successful applicant will have a substantial record of achievement in higher education, industry or commerce and will possess significant leadership and management skills.

The title of Polytechnic Professor may be conferred on a suitably qualified successful applicant.

The salary scale (HOD Grade VI) is £25,639 - £28,215 inclusive (under review).

A generous relocation package will be available in approved cases.

Informal enquiries to Dr T H P Hanahoe, Dean of School (0707) 279400.

Closing date for applications 16 March 1990.

Further details and an application form may be obtained from the Personnel Department, Hatfield Polytechnic, College Lane, Hatfield, Herts AL10 9AB or telephone Hatfield (0707) 279802.

Please quote reference number 1525 when applying.

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KAMUZU ACADEMY MALAWI BURSAR

The post of Bursar at this boarding school, established 9 years ago along the lines of the best UK independent schools, falls vacant in August 1990 and it is hoped that the appointee would be free to take up the post on 1st August or even earlier.

Applications are invited from candidates with broad general managerial experience at Senior level, including Budgeting and Financial Control as well as some knowledge of Estate, Plant and Personnel Management. Familiarity with computerised accounting systems is essential.

The Academy occupies a large campus with excellent facilities for the staff. An initial 3 years contract, UK level salary subject to negotiation, 25% gratuity, excellent free accommodation, educational allowances etc. Interviews London, March/April.

For further details please contact Roy Ashwell, Gabbitts, Truman and Thring Recruitment, Broughton House, 6-8 Sackville Street, London W1X 2BR. Telephone 01-734 0161, or 01-439 2071. Fax: 01-437 1764

GABBITTAS, TRUMAN & THRING

TONBRIDGE SCHOOL

MODERN LANGUAGES

Applications are invited for September 1990 from qualified good honours graduates for a post teaching FRENCH and GERMAN. An ability to contribute to extra curricular activities will be an added recommendation.

Salary on the Tonbridge School scale, with possibility of accommodation for married or unmarried candidate.

Applications with full curriculum vitae and names and addresses of two referees to The Headmaster, Tonbridge School, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1JP.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

SOCIAL STUDIES FACULTY CENTRE

University Lectureship in Economic History

Applications are invited for the above post to be filled from 1 October 1990, or as soon as possible thereafter. The successful candidate may be offered a fellowship at St Antony's College, Oxford, OX1 2PL, to whom applications (8 typed copies, 1 from overseas candidates) should be sent to arrive by 30 March 1990.

University Lectureship in International Relations

Applications are invited for the above post to be filled from 1 October 1990, or as soon as possible thereafter. Preference may be given to candidates with interest in economic aspects of World Politics and/or European Integration. The successful candidate may be offered a fellowship at St Antony's College, Oxford, OX1 2PL, to whom applications (8 typed copies, 1 from overseas candidates) should be sent to arrive by 30 March 1990.

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CARDIFF

CARDIFF LAW SCHOOL

TWO LECTURERS IN LAW

(Fixed-Term 3 Years)

Applicants should preferably have postgraduate or professional qualifications. The Law School is more concerned with the quality of the applicants than with their area of expertise, although an interest in teaching Company Law, or English Legal System would be an advantage.

Salary: £10,458 - £20,469 p/a. For further particulars and application form please write to University of Wales College of Cardiff, PO Box 431, Cardiff, CF1 1TA quoting Ref 90/20. Closing Date: 9 March 1990.

SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

Fellowship and College Lectureship in English

Applications are invited for a College Lectureship in English tenable from 1 October 1990 for three years in the first instance. The successful applicant will be required to teach for a minimum of ten hours per week on the post-medieval period primarily within the English Tripos. The pensionable stipend will be on the scale £10,458 to £15,372, less £99 if resident in College. Candidates should be under the age of 32 on 1 October 1990. The closing date for applications is 16 March 1990. Further particulars from The Master, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge CB2 3HU.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH FORBES CHAIR OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the above post which is vacant following the death of Professor J.P. Thorne. Candidates should have a proven record in teaching and research in English Language.

The salary will be in the professorial range. Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary to the University, University of Edinburgh, 63 South Bridge, EDINBURGH EH1 1LS, with whom applications (12 copies, including curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of three referees, should be sent by post by 23rd March 1990. Overseas candidates need submit only one copy of the application, and may use the University's fax number.

031-667 7938.

Please quote reference number 81/90

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN FACULTY OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

LECTURER IN ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for this Lectureship in the Department of Economics. No particular specialism is required. There will be opportunities for teaching at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. Candidates with a strong research record or potential are particularly encouraged to apply. Salary in the range £10,458 - £20,469.

Further particulars and application forms are available from the Personnel Office, University of Aberdeen, Regent Walk, Aberdeen AB9 8DQ (tel 0224 275991) to whom applications (2 copies) should be returned by 16 March 1990 quoting reference number JA/90.

PREP & PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BURSAR ASHFORD SCHOOL KENT

The School Council invites applications for the post of Bursar which falls vacant on 1st January 1991 when the present holder of the post retires. Ashford School is a leading independent boarding and day school (GSA and IAPS) for 700 girls.

The Bursar working in close liaison with the Headmistress is responsible to the School Council for the financial control of the School, for its buildings and for the provision and management of all supporting facilities. There is a continuing development programme which offers scope for an applicant with organising ability, drive and initiative. The duties include that of Clerk to the School Council.

Applicants should have reached the age of 35 and possess a wide range of managerial experience relevant to the post, details of which may be obtained from the Clerk to the School Council, Ashford School, East Hill, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8PB. Applications close on 31st March 1990.

ROYAL HOSPITAL SCHOOL IPSWICH, SUFFOLK, IP9 2RX.

SENIOR MISTRESS

The Royal Hospital School will be admitting girls for the first time in September 1991. We wish to appoint a Senior Mistress well in advance of that date. Teaching subject is of secondary consideration (although a Biologist or German teacher would be welcome). We are looking for a graduate who has a proven record in a girls' or co-educational boarding school, preferably as a teaching housemistress or other senior appointment.

The School is in membership of S.H.M.I.S. and further details may be found in the Independent Schools' Year Book.

Salary will be M.P.G. + Incentive Allowance E + Boarding Allowance and single or married accommodation will be available.

Further details and an application form may be obtained by writing to, or telephoning, the Headmaster's Secretary (Telephone Number 0473 32342).

UNIVERSITY OF DUNELM

DEPARTMENT OF LAW

LECTURERSHIPS IN LAW

Applications are invited for two Lectureships in Law, tenable from 1 October 1990. For one of the posts an interest in Law and Computing would be an advantage.

Salaries will be on the Lecturer Scale Grade A (£10,458-£15,372) or the Lecturer Scale Grade B (£10,458-£11,604) depending upon qualifications and experience. Further particulars (quoting reference SS/BCF/90.13) may be obtained from the Registrar and Secretary (Faculty of Social Sciences), University of Durham, Old Shore Hall, Old Shore, Durham, DH1 3HP, telephone:

(091) 374 2937, to whom applications (three copies, including the names and addresses of three referees, should be sent, not later than Friday, 16 March 1990.

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

Faculty of Law

Lecturer in Law

As part of a major development in Law applications are invited for the post of:

Lecturer in Law Salary in the range £10,458 - £20,469 per annum on the Lecturer A or B scale as appropriate. This post is additional to the three posts advertised recently, and is not restricted to applicants with any specific research or teaching interests.

Internal referees to Professor Peter Wainwright (051-734 2653) Applications by cv, with the names of three referees, should be received not later than 16 March 1990. The Director of Staffing Services (JAS), The University, P.O. Box 147, Liverpool, L69 3GB, from whom further particulars may be obtained. Please ref. 051/92/277/90. An Equal Opportunity Employer

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Department of Chemistry

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Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Organic Chemistry, commencing 1st September 1990. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise research in organic chemistry. The post is full time and involves a significant research component. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the development of the Department of Chemistry, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, Notts, NG7 2RD. Closing date 16 March 1990. Please quote Ref. AC/9012.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

Department of Chemistry

LECTURERSHIP IN ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Organic Chemistry, commencing 1st September 1990. The successful candidate will be expected to teach and supervise research in organic chemistry. The post is full time and involves a significant research component. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the development of the Department of Chemistry, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, Notts, NG7 2RD. Closing date 16 March 1990. Please quote Ref. AC/9012.

Academic terms and further details, reference ref. 1309, from 9 March 1990 from the Personnel Office, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, Notts, NG7 2RD. Tel: 0532 444444 ext. 3366. Ref No 1309.

POSTS

SAINT MARY'S HALL STONYHURST

APPOINTMENT OF HEAD

The Governors invite applications for the post of Head of Saint Mary's Hall, on the retirement of Mr P A Anwyl, in September 1990.

Saint Mary's Hall is a boys' boarding and day preparatory school, on an adjacent site to Stonyhurst College whose Junior School it is. It boasts outstanding academic, residential and recreational facilities.

Candidates, who must be practising Roman Catholics, are invited to apply to The Clerk to the Governors, Stonyhurst College, Lancashire, BB6 9PZ, from whom further details of the post may be obtained. Applications should include the names, addresses and telephone numbers of three referees. The closing date is 2nd March 1990. It is hoped to make the appointment by the end of March.

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POSTS

University of Sheffield

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Applications for the above Chair, tenable from 1 June 1990, are sought from outstanding mathematicians with international research records in any area of Applied Mathematics. The successful applicant should be able to give dynamic leadership to research and will be expected to contribute to the development and planning of teaching activities especially within the Mathematics School and in the Faculty of Engineering.

Further particulars from the Director of Personnel Services, The University, Sheffield S10 2TN, to whom applications (one copy), including a full curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of three referees, should be returned by 8 April 1990. Please quote reference MAP247/A.

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THE NATIONAL TRUST Administrator Speke Hall, Merseyside

An administrator is required, responsible to the N.T. Regional Office, for the day to day running, security and presentation of this outstanding Elizabethan Manor house on the outskirts of Liverpool.

Salary £21,161 - £16,853, reviewed April. The successful applicant will be required to reside in the flat provided. For further details and application form send s.a.e. to: C.W. Rolfe, Land Agent, The National Trust, Nympton Park, Shropshire, Shrewsbury, SY4 4TP. Closing date 23.3.90. (Mark envelope 'S. Admin')

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This is a new management appointment. The Deputy Bursar (Estates) will be responsible to the Bursar for the management of the Buildings and Grounds and it will particularly suit a proven administrator with the relevant technical qualifications and experience.

Applications will close on 30th March, 1990. Previous applicants need not re-apply.

Further details from: The Bursar, Lancing College, Lancing, West Sussex, BN15 0RW.

Tel: 0273 452213 Ext. 208

Graduate Geographer

Required for September 1990 to teach Geography to A-Level.

Involvement in extra curricular activities will be required. Experience would be welcome, but applications for well qualified and enthusiastic entrants to the profession will be seriously considered.

Own salary scale above Inner London "Baker" with an allowance available for appropriate experience.

Applications to Headmaster, from whom further details are available by Friday, 9th March, 1990. St. Dunstan's College, Stansfeld Road, Carfax, SE6 4TY.

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Only those who are well qualified, with successful experience and fired with enthusiasm, should apply. Conditions of service are excellent and the salary with Moreton additions and incentive allowance reflects the importance attached to this post.

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Contempt committal order flawed

Meanwhile if the order could not be drawn up before the warrant was executed, the judge would make an order that it be served on the contemnor within a specified and short period after execution of the warrant. Such a period would not exceed 24 hours and 24 hours would be more reasonable.

It was the duty of the county court to serve the order by the bailiff, if available the court must, through its bailiff, serve the order at the earliest practicable moment.

The schedule of allegations produced by the wife's solicitors and attached to the notice to show cause was perfectly appropriate for that purpose.

May I say that I am justified in saying it, but it was unsatisfactory for the husband to find the judge accepting word for word a document prepared on his own behalf. It may have been better if the judge had set it in his own words.

His Lordship referred to the contempt proceedings in which the judge's judgment had been reversed. Having emphasized that it was inappropriate of a number of passages his Lordship said that such language was not to be resorted to by the husband's lawyer. His Lordship said that he was being treated with customary judicial fairness.

His Lordship did not say that, but he stressed the importance of judges choosing their words

carefully. The judge concerned might now consider that the matter should in future be dealt with by another judge.

Lord Justice Stuart-Smith agreed.

Solicitors: Dunn & Baker, exco: Vine Edwards & Co, exmouth.

burglary

plaintiff and the police as had been present in *Dorset Yacht Co v The Home Office* ([1970] 1 All ER 1013).

His Lordship referred to *Hill v Chief Constable of West Yorkshire* ([1989] AC 530) and said that in his view the observations of Lord Keith of Kinkell and of Lord Templeman in relation to the effect on the police of their actions were essentially liable in negligence were general and not limited to the facts in that case.

They were equally applicable to the present case. His Lordship would therefore hold that it was not fair or reasonable that the police should be under any such common law duty as had been proposed.

It followed that the police were not under a duty of care of the kind under consideration and his Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

Lord Justice Stale and Lord Justice Fuld delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Weightman Thornebush, Liverpool; E. Rex & Co, Liverpool.

SUPER SECRETARIES

[illegible]

RUGBY UNION: SCOTLAND AND ENGLAND OFFER THE MOUTH-WATERING PROSPECT OF TWO UNBEATEN BRITISH SIDES GOING FOR THE GRAND SLAM ON MARCH 17

The legend of the dragon-slayers

By David Hands
Rugby CorrespondentEngland..... 34
Wales..... 20

The sound of fluttering in the air of Twickenham on Saturday was not so much that of palpitating Welsh hearts, more of chickens arriving home to roost: for Wales, that the legend of English fallibility will no longer serve, for England, that the days of talking a good team are done and that what you get is what you see.

Never has there been a more emphatic English victory — by three goals, a try and four penalty goals to a goal — since modern scoring values were adopted. The 28-point margin surpasses England's previous best against Wales (25-0 at Blackheath in 1896) and establishes the mouth-watering prospect of two unbeaten British teams going for the grand slam at Murrayfield on March 17 if Scotland can negotiate their way past Wales at Cardiff on March 3.

In the face of the statistics, it may appear carping, but England's overwhelmingly successful British Gas Challenge was not, in my view, such a complete performance as their win over France in Paris. Apart from the fact that that was achieved away from home, at the Parc des Princes, they took nearly every scoring chance on offer. Against the Welsh they won the opening but could not complete them, largely because of mishandling or misjudgement in midfield, where Guscott's decision-making was awry.

But England, and their euphoric supporters, must be allowed to revel in their triumph while after a game beset by no controversy or foul play and well handled on its first international appearance by David Leslie. The gentleman in the crowd behind the press box, who had already exceeded the permitted decibel count, could hardly contain himself: "30 points against the Welsh — I've waited years for this."

If the periphery was so elated, what must those at the core have felt? "To do that against Wales makes us all very happy," Geoff Cooke, the team manager, said. That may go down as one of the more

memorable sporting under-

statements. Cooke, quite rightly, would not be drawn on outstanding individuals but praised instead the unity of the team performance. Even so, I doubt if Peter Winterbottom has played better in an international career going back to 1982; he gave the complete response to those who would prefer Robinson or Rees in the side, not only with his dynamic destruction of Welsh ball-carriers but his constructive use of the ball in the hand.

Simon Hodgkinson, meanwhile, is averaging nearly 15 points a match with his boot. He missed only twice on Saturday, in a tricky wind swirling in from the south-west, which was behind England in the first half and it is difficult to underestimate the effect such accuracy can have on his team.

His first penalty in particular, with the match a minute old, was magnificently struck from 42 metres and the knowledge that tries can be embellished so consistently even from the touchline has a correspondingly depressing effect upon opponents.

The pattern of the game followed closely that of a fortnight ago against France. It was laid down by an English pack which hunted as a unit, arriving at the breakdown far more quickly than the Welsh and driving in numbers which invariably won them the feed at any subsequent scrum. The power generated as the Welsh forwards were remorselessly dismembered made a nonsense of comparisons between Hill and Robert Jones because the one was in an armchair, the other living off scraps literally flung at him by his forwards.

Jones, asked why he had not repeated the tormenting kicks which distinguished the corresponding fixture last year, heaved a heavy sigh. "No time," he said. Even though Wales won a fair share of lineout ball, much of it was under such insistent pressure that Jones could only pass it on in the hope that his outside could find more room.

In other circumstances, the Welsh back line, as an attacking unit, might have looked impressive, and Evans deserves happier days at stand-



No brakes on Carling: the captain's speed and strength taking him past one of four attempted tackles and into the corner

off half, but their defensive shortcomings were far more evident on the day, notably on the right, where Titley was embarrassed both by Carling and Underwood.

Wales tried to break up the English pattern with quick throw-ins and tapped penalties but with only limited hope of diverting England's ambitions. Just as in Paris, they started with two penalties and a try which originated with Andrew Douvan back to the blind side.

This time it was Carling on his elbow and the captain's speed and strength took him

past four attempted tackles into the corner. If that dismayed Wales, it was no more than the effect the English scrum had already had. Hodgkinson's second penalty was the direct consequence of a concerted English shove which pushed Wales off their own ball — the first of two strikes against the head for Moore and his colleagues.

From that point, only 10 minutes into the game, there was no place to which Wales could retreat and regroup. By half-time, they were trailing by 16 points, Underwood having scored his first try. His second

was a more sumptuous affair by far since it was run in from nearly 80 metres after Mark Jones lost possession in mid-field and Underwood stepped out of Robert Jones's tackle before scudding to the posts.

Davies, with Allen the most deserving of the Welsh forwards, forced his 18 stones over the English line but England scored direct from the restart. Winterbottom provided the telling pass for Underwood to break the defence on the blind side and Moore gave the pass to Hill, who twisted in at the corner for his first international try.

SCORES: England: Tries: Underwood (2), Carling (1), Davies (1), Davies (1), Davies (1). Penalty goals: Hodgkinson (3). Wales: Try: Davies. Conversion: Thomas.

ENGLAND: S D Hodgkinson (Nottingham), S J Hill (Barn), W D G Carling (Harlequins, captain), J C Guscott (Bath), R Underwood (Leicester), C R Andrew (Worcester), R J Hill (Barn), P A G Rees (Worcester), B C Moore (Nottingham), J A Pryor (Worcester), M G Skinner (Harlequins), W A Dooly (Preston), P J Astford (Harlequins), P J Jones (Cardiff), M C Teague (Gloucester).

WALE: P H Thomas (Northampton), M H Titley (Swansea), M G Ring (Cardiff), M H Hill (Cardiff), A J Jones (Swansea), captain, M Griffiths (Cardiff), K H Phillips (Neath), L Delaney (Llanelli), P T Davies (Llanelli), G Allen (Newbridge), G O Llewellyn (Neath), R G Collins (Cardiff), M A Jones (Neath). Referee: D Leslie (Scotland).

Beheaded French humbly don the kilt as a disguise

By Bryan Stiles

Scotland..... 21
France..... 0

Who can blame the Scots for feeling pleased with themselves? Only the worst Welsh side in living memory stands in the way of a grand slam confrontation with England at Murrayfield in a month's time. They swept to a comprehensive win over the French on Saturday, thanks mainly to France's inability to throw themselves under the guillotine.

It must disturb them a little, though, that it was not until Carmichael, the French flanker, was sent off for stamping nine minutes into the second half that they were able to exert the pressure that ensured victory by two goals and three penalties to nil. Until then, with Scotland leading by just three points, the game could have gone either way.

With France reduced to 14 men, the Scots had the confidence to strike out wide for the line, knowing that, with a defender missing, the French rearguard could be stretched and breached more easily.

The Scots must also have been grateful that Blanco, the once-great French full back, had a nightmare of a match, fumbling the ball, taking the wrong options and often completely confusing his colleagues.

With France building for the World Cup next year, Blanco may have played in his last international match, but the politics of French rugby allow for so much bizzare thinking that he could even be promoted to the captaincy for their next game, a meeting with those other also-rans, the Irish, in Paris a week next Saturday.

Certainly, Rodriguez did not seem able to exert much influence as captain on a French side that had shown 10 changes after the defeat by England in Paris. He rarely inspired his men with those destructive charges that were once a feature of his play and he did not initiate the shortpassing game that have upset many an opponent.

Much of the credit for squeezing a lot of the adventure out of the French style must go to the fine tackling by the Scottish back row and Cronin.

The Scottish pack matched the French in the set-pieces, rucks and mauls, with the lineout work of Cronin and Gray being much more profitable than it had been in the fortnight earlier. Carmichael's dismissal for stamping on Jeffrey eventually presented them with a decisive advantage.

Carmichael was non-plussed with the decision of the referee, Fred Howard, who was standing right behind him. "When the referee kept shouting 'off, off, off' I thought he was sending off a Scottish player," the flanker claimed. "But I did not argue with him." It would not have done him much good. He must have known that it was Howard who sent off Moseley, the Wales forward, for exactly the same offence against the French a fortnight earlier.

The effect on the game was exactly the same: defeat for the transgressors' team. But McGeechan, the Scottish coach, was biting his nails in the stand, worrying that a seven-man French pack would suddenly explode into life and snatch victory away. But the British work creation just did not have the heart, the commitment or the personnel to trouble the Scots. They were a sorry mess by the end and the blood-testing is not over yet.

Scotland took the lead in the tenth minute when Gavin Hastings was on target with a

penalty from 45 metres. It was a splendidly struck effort, but when he missed two attempts from close range in the swirling wind the kicking duties were handed to Chalmers, who failed with his first attempt, his kick from the 22-metre line sending the ball against an upright.

Having had the benefit of the high wind before the interval and managing to put only three points on the board, the Scots must have been apprehensive about the advantage the breeze would give the French in the second half. They need not have worried. The wind died down and Camberbero missed the two penalty chances that he was offered.

The French could be forgiven for feeling they were hard done by in the first half. Moseley was a finger-tip away from touching down a kick ahead and Fontas,

the French flanker, must have thought he was going to make a scoring debut when a desperate ankle-tap from Chalmers sent him sprawling into touch 10 metres from the line. It was a tackle that McGeechan, the Scottish coach, was acknowledging as crucial to the outcome of the match. If France had scored then, the complexion of the game could have changed.

As it was, the first try went to Calder, the former Scotland captain, who, together with Lineen, chased after the ball following a fine run and kick ahead by Tukalo. Lineen failed to ground the ball but Calder made no mistake.

Chalmers converted, to add to the penalty goal he had kicked a few minutes earlier to punish the stamping by Carmichael. Tukalo, reversing the style of play he was being given on the left-hand side and extricated himself from two tackles in the 25th minute. Chalmers converted the try and the Scots rounded off the scoring 10 minutes from the end with a penalty goal from in front of the posts as the French forwards transgressed again.

The French players must have realized well in advance that this was not going to be the day to be recognized as a Frenchman in Edinburgh. He donned a kilt as a "disguise" when he had to dash on to the field to treat a French player.

It was just about as effective as the excuse Carmichael offered when asked why he had been sent off. With a straight face, he explained that he was just trying to shake off someone who was pulling his leg. "Pull the other one, mon ami," as one Scottish player said.

SCORES: Scotland: Tries: Calder, Tukalo, Chalmers (2). Conversion: Chalmers (2). Penalty goals: G Hastings, Chalmers (2). FRANCE: A G Hastings (London Scottish), A G Hastings (London Scottish), A G Hastings (London Scottish), A G Hastings (London Scottish), A G Hastings (London Scottish), A G Hastings (London Scottish), A G Hastings (London Scottish), A G Hastings (London Scottish), A G Hastings (London Scottish), A G Hastings (London Scottish).

WALE: P H Thomas (Northampton), M H Titley (Swansea), M G Ring (Cardiff), M H Hill (Cardiff), A J Jones (Swansea), captain, M Griffiths (Cardiff), K H Phillips (Neath), L Delaney (Llanelli), P T Davies (Llanelli), G Allen (Newbridge), G O Llewellyn (Neath), R G Collins (Cardiff), M A Jones (Neath). Referee: D Leslie (Scotland).

Why acclaiming a pinnacle is premature

COMMENTARY

David Miller
Chief Sports Correspondent

These are not the best of times for English sport: our cricketers, legal and illegal, are persistently humbled, our footballers sit in the shade of the Dutch, Germans and Argentinians, even our hockey players are in decline. Now, with the evidence of substantial victories over France and Wales, English rugby seems poised for a result on next year's "home" World Cup.

It was marvellous, one might say, to watch all 15 Englishmen handling the ball with class, and some of the best moments came from spontaneous moves by the forwards after they had sent the Welsh reeling in the loose. How often have we endured, at Twickenham or Arms Park, an almost meaningless dinosaurs' dirge between these two.

If the Dutch and West Germans invented total football in the association game and the

New Zealanders in rugby, here was the squad so studiously prepared by Cooke and Utley approaching the same level. It is not inaccurate, nor unfair, to say that for a century most rugby teams, like association football teams before the era of Ramsey, were selected on a nonsensical, random and often disruptive basis that increased rather than diminished the players' problems. Great teams happen by accident.

Cooke and Utley have now, remembering the lessons of the grand slam in which Utley shared 10 years ago, brought a professional, ordered attitude with continuity of selection and a cerebral detachment in tactics.

Yet we should seriously pause before prematurely acclaiming England for reaching some alleged pinnacle: as indeed Cooke wisely refused to do on Sat-

urday, suggesting that the team still had faults to be eliminated. The world of rugby tends to be naive and narrow. So far this year England have defeated an average Irish side, the ageing French on a downward graph, and a Welsh team critically weakened by defections to the League game and, on Saturday, by sheer inexperience and at certain moments incompetence.

Up went the cry "New Zealand in the rest of the world could have done what England did." But wait a minute. Who in the rest of the world is there, in rugby, besides New Zealand and Australia? We are talking about a limited international field, about a game where the base of the pyramid is formed by amateur clubs; about opposition on Saturday drawn from three million people and, effectively, half a dozen clubs.

One of the conclusions from that equation is that the past performances of Welsh rugby are a minor miracle, and the reason why, with the odds so obviously and so heavily in England's favour beforehand, there were those with the courage and seemingly the logic still to predict an upset in what the RFU somewhat blazingly allowed to be called The British Gas Challenge.

What the crowd would have barely noticed, so accepted is it within the rules, that six of the points hammered into the willing Welsh came from penalty decisions when the ball was dead: not retreating 10 yards, and scooping the ball away to prevent a quick English lineout throw. If only those at Zurich in charge of the round-table game could see the sense of this and act upon it.

Perhaps with the international match a couple of miles down the A305 at the back of their minds, Richmond and Bristol put on an entertaining, if unconvincing exhibition at the Athletic Ground on Saturday, scoring a goal, three tries and a penalty goal piece in near-perfect conditions.

Richmond — twice denied by the upright — will need to tighten their game considerably to have even the slightest chance of success when Bath visit them next weekend in the quarter-finals of the Pilkington Cup.

Richmond stole a 13-4 lead in the first half and showed a fighting spirit to pull back a 21-17 deficit in the last half hour. With neither league points nor a place in the cup at stake, both sides played some adventurous rugby, the wings collect-

ing five of the eight tries between them, but cover was often scant and poor tackling throughout aided an open game. Some splendid handling by the backs gave Thiblet the opportunity to score a Bristol account in the left-hand corner after 22 minutes, but Richmond countered from the restart and Waghorn's advance into the line created the space for Fallon, again, to slip in under the posts.

Within minutes, though, Bristol opted to run a penalty from a kickable position and were rewarded when Whitehead touched down on the right, and they were back on terms with four minutes of the half remaining when Painter added to his conversion with a penalty goal.

Undaunted, Richmond found themselves back in front within two minutes of the restart when Evans snatched a Bristol ball and stole in unopposed, but it was joy short-lived as Davis caught the Richmond backs

napping with a quickly-taken tapped penalty, exchanged passes with Knibbs and crossed to level things once more. Knibbs, with a swerving, wriggling run through non-existent tackles from the 22, gave Bristol the lead three minutes later, and Thomas, with some booming clearance kicks, kept Richmond in retreat as the game wound down, but with 12 minutes left Evans spied some space on the right, charged through delicately and Fallon's pace once more did the rest.

SCORES: Richmond: Tries: Fallon (3), Evans, Conversion: Radford. Penalty goals: Radford (2). Bristol: Tries: Thiblet, Whitehead, Davis, Knibbs, Conversion: Painter. Penalty goal: Painter.

WAGHORN: W Waghorn, R Knibbs, S Painter, B Whitehead, P Hill, J Davis, A Sharp, D Palmer, P Smith, P Pollard, P Adams, N Larr, D Eves, A Dun. Referee: D Kennedy (Australia).

Waterloo stretch Saracens

By Michael Austin

Saracens..... 23
Waterloo..... 14

The Saracens dressing-room door slammed shut as an expression of self-reproach following their hour-long struggle to establish a lead and quell Waterloo at Southgate on Saturday.

Despite being a league and a half adrift of Saracens in the Courage Clubs Championship, Waterloo increased the soul-searching which Saracens have undergone since their unexpected Pilkington Cup defeat at Moseley the previous week.

Waterloo are also doing some self-analysis and know that if they have one more player sent off — after five were dismissed in the first 10 weeks of the season — they could face a club suspension from playing matches next September. Saracens won because they

countered Waterloo's extra upper-body strength and mutual ingenuity by giving them rigorous tackling duties in distant corners, partly through the hefty Smith, who charged downfield like a runaway rhino.

Smith stampeded through the middle with increasing regularity as Waterloo's seven-point lead in 19 minutes — with wind assistance — disappeared in a shapeless match of 28 penalty awards.

Gregory seized a long, floating pass from Robinson for Saracens' opening try, after 28 minutes, and within seconds of their first appearance in the opposing half.

Saracens appreciated the growing influence of Adamson in the lineout and Clarke, the London No. 8, who was the joint leading try-scorer with Fallon, of Richmond, in the Toshiba divisional championship. Clarke's first try, around the blindside of a scrum, edged Saracens ahead for the

first time at 14-10 and his second try, a pushover, secured victory.

Robinson ran 45 yards, skilfully treading the touchline for the final try, long after Hill offered Waterloo a false dawn, in a season yielding only nine wins, with a second-minute try from Angell's perfect kick ahead.

Angell landed three penalty goals from eight attempts, while Rudlin kicked two penalty goals and a conversion out of seven, two rebounding off a post and another taking a kinder deflection and bouncing over.

SCORES: Saracens: Tries: Clarke (2), Robinson, Gregory. Conversion: Rudlin. Penalty goals: Rudlin (3). Waterloo: Try: Hill. Penalty goal: Angell.

SARACENS: S Robinson, D McLagan, J Buckton, I Smith, M Gregory, B Rudlin, F Headman, J Leonard, J McFarland, R Andrews, C Tarbuck, R Malone, L Adamson, D Stock, B Clarke.

WATERLOO: J Titley, S Broadbridge, N Hill, I Gibbins, P Conley, R Angell, A Rice, K Fennell, M Heydon, D Reed, S Gallagher, N Wilkinson, T Swann, K Brockman, I Shaw. Referee: S Savage (Warwickshire).

Clift catches the eye

By Michael Stevenson

Liverpool St Helens..... 16
Fylde..... 21

Liverpool St Helens, with just three matches against Blackheath, Rugby and Sale) standing between them and first division status next season, found Fylde formidable opponents, losing a thrilling match by two goals and a try to a goal, three tries and a penalty.

Yet Liverpool would undoubtedly claim to have produced the outstanding player of the game, Clift, the stand-off half, whose talent and potential it would be difficult to overpraise.

Clift chipped delicately, collected and fed Wellens. Davies linked well to put the thrustful Septon in for an excellent try, which Harnes converted. Still the points came. Wright worked the blind and out-paced and out-witted the cover for another good try. Fylde's 11-6 interval

lead following a penalty by Jackson.

Clift, Wellens, Davies and the cover, Wellens cut the lead to five points (15-10) before the best try of the match. It was the precociously brilliant Clift who launched his backs with another crisp break.

Wellens and Davies created a try for Shinnell and Liverpool found themselves enjoying a single-point lead with time running out; but Parker worked a scissors with his centres. Harnes scored for Jackson to convert.

SCORES: Liverpool St Helens: Tries: Septon, Wellens, Shinnell. Conversion: Harnes (2). Fylde: Tries: Harnes (2), Wright, Dixon. Conversion: Jackson. Penalty: Jackson.

LIVERPOOL ST HELENS: S Harnes, M Section, M Davies, B Wellens, J Shinnell, D Clift, G Jones, C King, T Meale, T Allen, D Carter, M Hale, R Sainsbury, N Hughes, A McGeechan.

FYLDE: M Jackson, B Harnes, J Greenhead, M Fielden, E Fry, A Parker, J Wright, C Burns, M Dixon, M Sainsbury, A Grant, D Young, P Carr, M Hootch, J Taylor. Referee: A John (North Midlands).

Uprights thwart Richmond

By Barry Trowbridge

Richmond..... 21
Bristol..... 21

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WHO'S THE ENERGY BEHIND ENGLAND AND WALES?

THE BRITISH GAS CHALLENGE
ENGLAND v WALES TWICKENHAM FEBRUARY 17th 1990

British Gas
ENERGY IS OUR BUSINESS

GOLF: AS ATLANTIC GALE BLOWS, TOURNAMENT WINNER DISCOVERS IT IS AN ILL WIND THAT BLOWS NOBODY ANY GOOD

McAllister enjoys ideal birthday gift in chaotic final day

From John Hennessy
Oporto, Portugal

A fierce wind from the south, along the Atlantic sea board, barring arrows of rain, created havoc on the last day of the Vinho Verde Atlantic Open championship at Estela, 20 miles to the north of Oporto. From it all, there emerged the unlikely winner after a gripping six-man play-off in Stephen McAllister, who celebrated his 28th birthday last Friday with a prize of £33,330.

McAllister, born in Paisley, had a final round of 74, two over what might laughably be called par in such conditions, and a total of 288. It is not often that level par is good enough to win a European tournament but few players could recall conditions as severe as this.

In the event, McAllister was the only player among the six to record a minimal four for the first extra hole, the 404-yards 10th. This was a formidable proposition into the teeth of the wind and only Richard Boxall, who had shared the lowest round of the day, 71, with Mark Davis, managed to hit the green.

McAllister had felt no nerves on the tee in an unaccustomed position of man they fear most in the continuing bad weather. Some idea of Forman's great length was seen at the 396-yard 14th where a one iron gave him only a 70yd putt, and particularly at the 499-yard par-five 18th where he hit what was probably the longest drive seen at this famous finishing hole. Admittedly the wind was helping him considerably but, even so, it was astonishing to see him drive 379 yards between the bunkers into the green of the lake guarding the green.

THIRD ROUND LEADERS: 288: O Forman, 68, 63, 72, 205; R Amour, 68, 68, 68, 204; M Davis, 68, 68, 68, 204; M O'Meara, 68, 74, 67, 209; S McAllister, 74, 74, 74, 222; P Stewart, 70, 71, 70, 211.

Harris, ranked 93rd in the world, was suffering from influenza while Higgins, struggling hard to recover his place in the top 16, had picked up a chill during his Matchroom International League defeat by Tony Meo, in Finland, on Friday night.

This then was germ warfare with Higgins making the first pre-emptive strike, a clearance of 36, before coughing up further breaks of 54 and 40 to lead 3-1.

Harris briefly threatened to raise the temperature by recovering to 4-3 but Higgins won the next on the pink by 55-38 and then said he was looking forward to seeing who the new format after this tournament - a re-draw after a round - would offer as an opponent next time out and no wonder: assuming Steve Davis beats Kirk Stevens, of Canada, on Tuesday night, Higgins would have been playing the world champion.

Higgins, who boasts only membership of snooker's antiscary society: "Thank God we've got through and now we can look forward to whenever they make the draw."

James Macleod, of Scotland, defeated Barry West 5-0 to earn his first ranking point of the season and guaranteed prize-money of £3,334, which almost doubles his season's total. The father of four girls, he has also lost £8,000 sponsorship because of the economic climate but the former banker said he is not yet on the breadline.

RESULTS: Third round (England unless stated) M Macleod (Scot) 5-0 R West (Eng); O O'Shea (Ire) 5-0 R Harris (Scot); A Knowles (Ire) 5-0 R Harris (Scot).

RESULTS: First round (England unless stated) M Macleod (Scot) 5-0 R West (Eng); O O'Shea (Ire) 5-0 R Harris (Scot); A Knowles (Ire) 5-0 R Harris (Scot).

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Card of the course

Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	487	5	11	404	4
2	199	3	12	367	4
3	191	3	13	309	3
4	200	4	14	396	4
5	420	4	15	388	3
6	521	5	16	388	3
7	342	4	17	173	3
8	400	4	18	391	4

Total yardage: 6,793 Par: 72

eminence. "It was a strange sensation," he said later. "I have never been before."

This was his first victory in a 72-hole tournament, surpassing his fifth place in the English Open at Royal Birkdale two years ago.

The Scot was well short with two woods, but played a sweet pitch shot to an elevated green. He holed the 12 foot putt, and thus immediately despatched Stephen Jamill, of Northern Ireland (76 years), and Anders Sorensen, of Denmark (77), who had both pitched too strong.

In the second three-ball, Ronan Rafferty (72), again the favourite to win as he had been before a ball was struck on Thursday, hit his second into a bunker and his third clean over the green.

David Williams (74) had ruined his chance with a tee shot into the dunes, which left Boxall as the only threat. He was all of 20 yards from the flag on the lower tier, however, and left his first putt disastrously 15 feet short.

McAllister suffers, in these conditions, from wearing spectacles, but once he had got the fourth and fifth out of the way, both one over par, he played the remaining holes in level par with enviable depth of character.

The 17th (173 yards) was crucial. He hit only a seven iron down wind and holed from 15 feet to become involved in the cavalry charge. At the same hole, Sorensen did the reverse. The only player under par, he hit an eight iron into the bunker and failed to get up and down.

LEADING SCORERS (British unless stated): 288: S McAllister, 71, 72, 74 (won at Estela); 289: R Amour, 68, 68, 68, 204; M Davis, 68, 68, 68, 204; M O'Meara, 68, 74, 67, 209; S McAllister, 74, 74, 74, 222; P Stewart, 70, 71, 70, 211.

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Missing out: Faldo reacts after missing a putt, which opened the way for winner, Norman

Morse, of America, (67). "How do I feel? Sick," Faldo said. "I would have liked to have started my year with a win. I thought I was going to. I just didn't feel right on the greens. I was struggling to find the bottom of the hole."

"I'll be okay by the time I tee up in the Desert Classic, in Dubai, on Thursday. It is just very disappointing."

Norman was elated by his success, which seemed unlikely when, at the sixth, he struck his second shot out of bounds. He finished the hole by marking a seven on his card. His recovery, however, was no less spectacular as he holed from a bunker at the seventh for an eagle three.

Thereafter, Norman walked the fairways of this excellent course, on the northern edge of Melbourne's luxuriant sandbelt, with the confident air of a man who felt destiny was on his side, whereas Faldo gradually lost his faith on the greens.

"There is a lot more break in these greens than there looks, and you need to hit the ball firmly at the hole," Faldo said. "I hit too many putts that died in front of the hole."

The crucial hole was probably the 14th, where Faldo missed from 16 feet, then watched as Norman drove level by holing from 14 feet for a birdie. Norman went on to grasp the lead at the next with a putt of 15 feet for a two, and Faldo lost contact by taking five at the 17th.

Norman disclosed, following the presentation, that he has resigned as a member of the Australian PGA Tour. "I cannot play the required number of events, because of my international commitments," he said.

David Feherty emulated his fellow Australian, Faldo, by compiling a 69 without dropping a shot. Even so, he had little fortune on the greens, missing a succession of good opportunities, and he will seek advice from Sam Torrance, who had gone instead for the Greenall Whitley Chase at Haydock Park on March 3.

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THIRD ROUND LEADERS: 288: O Forman, 68, 63, 72

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Beech Road to make fitness tell

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Cheltenham the season before.

It is also pertinent to point out that Vagador finished only 3 1/2 lengths behind Beech Road in last year's Champion Hurdle, but rather more than double that distance on slightly better terms in the Sandeman Hurdle at Aintree subsequently.

Vagador has an undeniable claim to his best at these weights, but time alone will tell whether he is in tune. He has not raced since last spring whereas Beech Road's performance this winter have endorsed the view that he has improved physically. Beech Road is preferred.

However, it would be wrong to paint this as simply a two-

horse race. Propero, trained by Josh Gifford, is quite capable of putting up a bold show on a track where he has won twice, even though he was routed by Beech Road at Cheltenham last month. Valrodan, too, is surely capable of better than he has shown at Windsor or Haydock Park this season.

In the D and E and J Levy Novices' Chase the choice appears to lie between Beech Road's stable companion Romany King, who was runner-up to Party Politics at Warwick last time, and the Queen Mother's Royal Pavilion, seven lengths second to For The Grain at Newbury 10 days ago.

Royal Pavilion gets my vote to win on the course where his

owner achieved her first victory with Monaveen 41 years ago.

At Wolverhampton, Richard Lee, who scored a memorable triumph at Cheltenham on Saturday with Sandiciff Boy, can land a double with Travel Over (2.45) and Tree Poppy (4.15).

Travel Over, my selection for the Shrewsbury Cup, was a creditable second to the in-form City Entertainer at Wetherby first time out, while both the ground and distance of the Dunstable Handicap Hurdle will suit Tree Poppy, an easy winner at Uttoxeter nine days ago, better than Battalion.

For the day's best bet, though, I turn to Rodden Brook, who is napped to win the first division of the Chillingham Hunters' Chase in the hands of Peter Walwyn's experienced assistant trainer Patrick MacEwan.

Although they were beaten 7 1/2 lengths by Colcombe Castle at Wincanton 11 days ago, MacEwan feels that lack of fitness, allied to lack of distance, brought about Rodden Brook's downfall that day.

Today's longer trip will suit Rodden Brook, who is also 7 1/2 better at the weights. The combination should make the difference between victory and defeat.

At Lingfield, Bill Preece has sound prospects of a double with The Lighter Side (2.40) and Storm Warrior (3.10).



Mark Dwyer is thrown clear as Aston Express falls at the Nottinghamshire Novices' Chase won by Cashew King. Fuego Boy (Jamie Osborne) slips past.

Desert Orchid set back to square one for Kempton date

By Christopher Goulding

Desert Orchid has his final outing before attempting to win a second Cheltenham Gold Cup in the Racing Post Handicap Chase at Kempton Park on Saturday.

"The horse is in tremendous form and I expect him to win," trainer David Elsworth told yesterday. "It's a nuisance that he has been picked up a 3lb penalty for his win at Wincanton but I don't think it will stop him."

Desert Orchid, who is set to carry 12st 3lb, is likely to be conceding upwards of two stone to his nearest rival.

"It's a lot of weight to carry," Elsworth added. "But he will be running on one of his favourite courses and the race will put him spot on for Cheltenham."

Elsworth, who took advantage of Desert Orchid's fall in the Martell Chase at Liverpool last season when runner-up to Yahoo, makes his seasonal debut on the Sandbury course in the three-mile contest.

Elsworth also had encouraging news of Cavies Crown, who has been off the course since he collapsed after participating in last year's Cheltenham Gold Cup, when he came down with a chest infection.

Approaching the second last fence in the Nottinghamshire Novices' Chase, Sawdust Jack appeared to be going best in front only to come down with a chest infection.

The Jim Ford Chase, which was won only by Cavies Crown, will also feature the return of Kildimo. "He is horse everyone has forgotten about," said Jimmy Frost, the gelding's rider. "He schooled him last week and is great shape. If all goes well I can see him running a

FONTWELL PARK

Selections
By Mandarin

2.00 Fisticuffs of Bucks.
2.30 Disphantine.
3.00 Beech Road.

3.30 Royal Pavilion.
4.00 Mountain.
4.30 Junior Parker.

By Michael Seely
3.00 Beech Road. 4.30 Murphy's Man.

Going: soft

2.0 MIDNIGHT CLAIMING HURDLE (21.688: 2m 2f) (16 runners)

1 2-0210 CARFAX 12 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 2-0210 CARFAX 12 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
3 2-0210 CARFAX 12 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
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14 2-0210 CARFAX 12 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
15 2-0210 CARFAX 12 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
16 2-0210 CARFAX 12 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

FORM FOCUS

1 2-0210 CARFAX 12 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 2-0210 CARFAX 12 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
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14 2-0210 CARFAX 12 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
15 2-0210 CARFAX 12 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
16 2-0210 CARFAX 12 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

3.0 NATIONAL SPIRIT CHALLENGE TROPHY (Listed hurdle race: 25.253: 2m 2f) (9 runners)

1 11-11-11 BEECH ROAD 28 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 11-11-11 BEECH ROAD 28 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
3 11-11-11 BEECH ROAD 28 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
4 11-11-11 BEECH ROAD 28 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
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9 11-11-11 BEECH ROAD 28 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

Course specialists

TRAINERS

Winners Runners Per cent

1 11-11-11 BEECH ROAD 28 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 11-11-11 BEECH ROAD 28 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
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WOLVERHAMPTON

Selections
By Mandarin

1.45 Run To Form.
2.15 Federal Trooper.
2.45 Travel Over.

3.15 RODDEN BROOK (nap).
3.45 Carl's Choice.
4.15 Tree Poppy.
4.45 Morpion.

Michael Seely's selection: 2.45 TRAVEL OVER (nap).
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.45 CARL'S CHOICE.
By Brian Beel
3.15 Rodden Brook. 3.45 Carl's Choice.

Guide to our in-line racecard

1 11-11-11 BEECH ROAD 28 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 11-11-11 BEECH ROAD 28 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
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9 11-11-11 BEECH ROAD 28 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

Going: good to soft (chase course); soft (hurdles)

1.45 PLAYING FIELDS NOVICES HURDLE (22.332: 2m 4f) (17 runners)

1 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
3 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
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16 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
17 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

3.30 D E & J LEVY NOVICES CHASE (22.310: 2m 2f 110yd) (15 runners)

1 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
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14 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
15 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

4.0 JOHN ROGERSON MEMORIAL CHALLENGE TROPHY (Handicap chase: 22.924: 2m 2f 110yd) (10 runners)

1 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
3 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
4 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
5 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
6 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
7 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
8 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
9 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
10 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

FORM FOCUS

1 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
3 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
4 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
5 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
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8 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
9 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
10 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

4.30 FEBRUARY NOVICES HURDLE (21.940: 2m 8f) (20 runners)

1 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
3 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
4 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
5 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
6 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
7 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
8 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
9 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
10 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
11 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
12 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
13 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
14 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
15 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
16 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
17 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
18 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
19 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
20 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

FORM FOCUS

1 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
3 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
4 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
5 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
6 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
7 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
8 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
9 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
10 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
11 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
12 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
13 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
14 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
15 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
16 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
17 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
18 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
19 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
20 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

2.45 SHREWSBURY CUP HANDICAP CHASE (23.941: 3m 4f) (10 runners)

1 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
3 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
4 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
5 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
6 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
7 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
8 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
9 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
10 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

3.15 CHILLINGTON HUNTERS CHASE (Div I: amateurs: 21.618: 3m 1f) (10 runners)

1 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
3 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
4 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
5 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
6 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
7 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
8 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
9 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
10 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

3.45 CHILLINGTON HUNTERS CHASE (Div II: amateurs: 21.604: 3m 1f) (9 runners)

1 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
3 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
4 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
5 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
6 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
7 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
8 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
9 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

4.15 DUNSTABLE PARK HANDICAP HURDLE (22.999: 2m 4f) (10 runners)

1 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
3 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
4 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
5 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
6 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
7 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
8 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
9 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
10 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

4.45 WEST PARK NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (21.842: 2m 1f) (10 runners)

1 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
2 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
3 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
4 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
5 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
6 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
7 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
8 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
9 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50
10 0-4-11 GENERAL TROOPER 56 (5) (P. Hoggins) R Hood 5-12-0 M Hood 50

LINGFIELD PARK

FOOTBALL: SOUTHAMPTON STAGE A BRAVE REARGUARD ACTION AS LIVERPOOL SLIP INTO OVERDRIVE AND GO THROUGH TO LAST EIGHT IN FA CUP

Anfield crowd given a glimpse of the double double form

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Liverpool 3
Southampton 0

Nobody at Anfield is talking about the prospect, naturally enough, but Liverpool are edging towards another historic feat. A dozen League fixtures away from regaining the championship, they are three FA Cup ties away from retaining the trophy and becoming the first club to achieve the double twice.

If they close the season as they finished the fifth-round game on Saturday, their name will again be inscribed on both titles. Chris Nicholl, Southampton's manager, was not outrageously extravagant in describing them as "exceptional" once they had scored their second goal. "Their play was terrific," he said.

By then the sun was shining on Liverpool, they knew they were through to the last eight and indulged in all manner of party tricks. Their exhibition of telepathic movement and precise passing prompted Case and Leese to hail their former colleagues as "the best in the world at that".

Although Liverpool did eventually earn the lavish plaudits, it was a match not so much of two halves but of two thirds and a third. For an hour

they were heavily restricted by their own inability to evade the offside trap, and by the efficiency of Southampton's defence.

Southampton's attack was diminished as soon as Le Tissier, their leading scorer, was ruled out with a sprained ankle in the morning. They were, nevertheless, the first to create an opening when Venison allowed Rodney Wallace a free, if awkward, volley. He misused his side's last genuine chance of becoming only the second visitors to claim an FA Cup victory at Anfield in 21 years.

"The first goal is especially important here," Nicol said. "If they get it, you know you are in trouble." Before the interval Liverpool had and Southampton were.

For 40 minutes, though, Moore and Osman shackled Beardley and Rush, and Ray Wallace, the replacement for Le Tissier, assisted Horne in imprisoning Barnes. Liverpool were ushered, often sideways, and occasionally backwards, until, through several pieces of quick thinking at a short corner, they caught their opponents unawares for once.

Rush's goal, his thirtieth in the competition, loosened Southampton's hold. They would doubtless have conceded a second had Moore not

deliberately handled Whelan's through-ball — an offence for which he incurred a suspended punishment — and they did so when bemused by the twinkling feet of Beardley.

"We kept it tight at the back, and we showed a lot of patience," Kenny Dalglish said. Having worked for an hour, they had earned the right to play. They were inspired in spite of the loss of Barnes, who pulled a muscle in his groin and limped off.

He has time in which to recover, since there is conveniently a 10-day break in their programme, but his substitute is adequate enough anyway. Houghton, who had been out for six weeks, celebrated his return by inviting Nicol to claim the third with an impudent lob.

"We made them misplace the odd pass," Nicol added. "But they kept grinding away. They showed our youngsters what to do, and some of our older ones as well." The lesson is not yet over. At the end of March, Southampton are scheduled to return to Anfield.

LIVERPOOL: G. Smith, G. Hysen, P. Vernon, S. Nicol, R. Whelan, P. Beardley, D. Barnes, I. Rush, J. Barnes (sub: R. Houghton), G. McManis.

SOUTHAMPTON: T. Flowers, F. Horne, J. Case, K. Leese, J. Case, P. Venison (sub: S. Lee), G. Cockerill, P. Robinson, S. Williams (sub: N. Medhurst), Rodney Wallace.

Referee: A. Moly.



Defence breached: Mountfield, of Aston Villa (left), beats Naylor, the West Bromwich Albion goalkeeper, North and Whyte

'Cameos of skill' from the new force

By Dennis Shaw

West Bromwich Albion 0
Aston Villa 2

Three immaculate centre backs, a midfield player who passed with precision and two goals from the realms of fantasy comprised Aston Villa's FA Cup potence at The Hawthorns.

Gram Taylor, the manager who is fashioning the English game's new force, was the first to acknowledge that the West Midlands neighbours displayed "cameos of skill" rather than 90 minutes of control.

It was not said in criticism, more out of awareness that Villa have a combination of strengths which make them difficult opposition even on their lesser days. More and more the feeling is emerging that Liverpool's most precious attributes, that of winning games when not all of their working parts are in tune.

"This side is not particularly good at adapting to ungodly conditions," Taylor said, in a reference to the sand-strewn surface and the recent denial by Middlesbrough of a Wembley final in the Zenith Cup.

What we are now extremely good at is defending under heavy pressure and making dangerous breaks, he added. Two of these "dangerous breaks" produced a goal in each half and prompted the impression that Villa have the composure, self-confidence and ammunition to continue their pursuit of honours in two competitions.

A few seconds before their first successful strike (after 24 minutes), Naylor's goal was well guarded and secure. Cowans, though in possession, seemingly had no weak point at which to direct a pass: Mountfield was outside the area and irrelevant to the action.

Cowans pierced his pass to a point too far out for the goalkeeper to reach, Mountfield sprang forward, unseen by defenders facing the other way, and a flick of the head was all he needed.

The second goal, seconds before time, was conjured out of the ether by Daley, a young centre forward who has characterized Villa's remarkable improvement and made defenders attempting to mark him feel as though they are wearing diving boots. By any analysis, Brian Kelly could not claim that his team should have won but he was right to bemoan ill fortune.

Gary Robson was carried off with a broken leg, wearing the same colours as did his brother, Bryan, in similar circumstances in 1970. Villa cleared two likely goals off their goalposts, scored twice in only three attempts, and survived endless attacks.

WEST BROMWICH ALBION: S. Naylor, D. Barnes, G. Horne, G. Robson, B. Taylor, C. Whyte, S. North, C. Shephard, S. Goddard, C. West (sub: A. Smith), S. Molyneux, K. Barrett.

ASTON VILLA: N. Spink, C. Price, C. Goss, P. McGrath, D. Mountfield, K. Nelson, T. Naylor, D. Platt, I. Gray, G. Cowans, I. Ormrod.

Referee: A. Gunn.

Spirited Barnsley earn their reward

By Ian Ross

Sheffield United 2
Barnsley 2

South Yorkshire must wait until Wednesday evening before discovering which of these two sides will move forward to represent the county in the quarter-finals of the FA Cup.

Although Barnsley will regard the result as a moral victory, such is their plight at the foot of the second division, they will also rue their failure to finish an often careless Sheffield United defence. The fact of the matter is that their opponents will enter the replay at Oakwell as firm favourites, if only because they have, of late, performed with more composure away from Bramall Lane.

Since taking over as manager at Barnsley, Mel Machin has striven to instil a sense of adventure into a side which has always been renowned for its physical presence and little more.

On the evidence of yesterday's commendable display it would seem that he has succeeded to a certain degree.

"I would have been happy with this result before we came here but in the event I think we should have won it," Machin said.

In an opening half which contained much good football and numerous chances for both sides, Barnsley excelled, and succeeded in breaching United's strangely lethargic rearguard as early as the third minute.

After Tracey, the United goalkeeper, had turned in a superb shot behind, Smith rose smartly

to head home a corner by Robinson which should have been cleared. Against the run of play, the home side drew level six minutes later when the much-vaunted attacking partnership of Agana and Deane for once gelled.

Agana drove his partner's cross from the left into the body of Baker, the Barnsley goalkeeper, and the ball fell kindly for Bradshaw, who lunged forward to score from close range.

Had Barnsley then decided to adopt a more defensive strategy their caution would have been perfectly understandable. Perhaps surprisingly, they refused to surrender the initiative and were rewarded with a second goal after 15 minutes when Cooper headed home at the far post after Glover's cross had hit Tracey's glove and crossed over a defender.

A disappointing second half was notable only for United's second equalizing goal, after 47 minutes, when Bryson swept the ball home after Hill's ferocious drive from 30 yards had come back into play off the underside of the crossbar.

Dave Bassett, the Sheffield United manager, was far from happy with his side's performance. "We were naive and were hit by two sucker punches. We sat back and let them come at us. Our back four did not take the initiative at all," he said.

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After Tracey, the United goalkeeper, had turned in a superb shot behind, Smith rose smartly

Oldham revival only what Royle expected

By Clive White

Oldham Athletic 2
Everton 2

This was far too good a tie to be described as an anti-climax after the extraordinary performance by Oldham Athletic at Boundary Park on Wednesday. Yet such is the level of achievement of the Latics in cup competition this season that a draw with Everton on Saturday was no more than they expected — or deserved.

If Joe Royle, the Oldham manager, was slightly biased about it afterwards, who could blame him? Not since Oldham missed out on the League championship 75 years ago by a single point (to Everton as it so happened), have they had as much to crow about.

Convincing winners against Arsenal and Southampton in the Littlewoods Cup, they might easily have added the notable scalp of Everton in the fifth round of the Merseyside club's favourite competition, but for some stubborn goalkeeping from Southall, and may yet do so in the replay at Goodison Park on Wednesday.

"We were not as fluent as we have been in recent weeks," Royle said. He was more disappointed at Oldham's inability to stretch themselves a little further for the winner than he was pleased at the elasticity they had shown in recovering the two-goal deficit. "We've done that many times this season. We like making it interesting," he said.

Whether or not Everton felt

on safer ground after last season's Littlewoods Cup victory on the artificial pitch, they played with greater self-assurance than most visitors to Boundary Park. They have the necessary fine skills to perform on such a surface. Yet the pitch performed very normally, a lot more so than most pitches this time of year. One forget all about it as soon as the game began.

There was an accuracy about Everton's work in the first half that made Oldham look, temporarily, second division. The least awe inspiring about Everton was the understanding of Sharp and Cotes. The Oldham supporters will be relieved to hear that that is not always the case.

Nevertheless, Sharp's 22nd-minute goal, scored with a deliberately swung right foot following a mistake by Barrett, did look impressive, as did the Cotes header which put Sharp clear four minutes later. Despite Marshall's illegal attempt to stop the Scot, and Hallworth's blunder, Cotes followed up to score.

That goal did Everton no favours, though it might have done had Cotes not been denied shortly before half-time when Hallworth atoned splendidly, reaching behind himself to save the Everton goal. As the Cotes header which put Sharp clear four minutes later. Despite Marshall's illegal attempt to stop the Scot, and Hallworth's blunder, Cotes followed up to score.

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No cup of joy for unsmiling Coppel

By Dennis Signy

Crystal Palace 1
Rochdale 0

A last-minute save by Nigel Martyn, Palace's £1 million acquisition from Bristol Rovers, saved his side having to replay the fourth division play-off games, they face Chelsea at Selhurst Park in the first leg of the southern final of the Zenith Data Systems Cup, just two games away from the possibility of meeting Middlesbrough at Wembley.

While Rochdale departed to a deserved ovation, to concentrate on achieving a visit to Wembley themselves, they were shot from the excellent Bright, Welch looked unbeatable. Coppel compared one of his saves to that of Gordon Banks from Pele in the 1970 World Cup. The irony was that when Coppel had him watched, Welch conceded six goals: "The report was not complimentary," the Palace manager observed.

Dolan said that Peter Ward's last-minute shot almost provided "a sting in the tale." Coppel produced a rare moment of humour in congratulating Martyn on his save at the end, after long periods of inactivity. "It is not often he has those occasions with us," he said.

He contended that each Palace League game was a cup final. "Our first-division status is still more important. That is what this club is all about."

Like it or not, Palace are in the quarter-finals. A goal by Phil Barber after 62 minutes, when

Mark Bright headed on a long throw-in by Andy Gray, sufficed to end Rochdale's stern defensive resistance.

The goal, only the second of the season for Barber, was the first Rochdale had conceded in five rounds as they enjoyed their first venture into the fifth round of the cup since the club was formed in 1907. One valid reason for that achievement was presented by Keith Welch, aged 21, who joined them on the Youth Training Scheme when Bolton Wanderers, his home town club, released him. Terry Dolan, the Rochdale manager, compared Welch favourably in valuation with Martyn.

From the second minute, when he clutched a close-range shot from the excellent Bright, Welch looked unbeatable. Coppel compared one of his saves to that of Gordon Banks from Pele in the 1970 World Cup. The irony was that when Coppel had him watched, Welch conceded six goals: "The report was not complimentary," the Palace manager observed.

Dolan said that Peter Ward's last-minute shot almost provided "a sting in the tale." Coppel produced a rare moment of humour in congratulating Martyn on his save at the end, after long periods of inactivity. "It is not often he has those occasions with us," he said.

He contended that each Palace League game was a cup final. "Our first-division status is still more important. That is what this club is all about."

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Fulham in show of resolution

By Keith Blackmore

Fulham 5
Notts County 2

This third division match on Saturday was remarkable for two demonstrations, one by Fulham supporters at half-time, the other by the Fulham players during the second half. The first, at least, was expected, having been planned two weeks before when the Fulham board announced that it had accepted the offer of Cabra Estates, worth up to £13 million, to leave Craven Cottage.

About 1,500 people trooped onto the field during the interval to urge the board to reconsider. Their demonstration was good-natured, the one unpleasant note being struck by a club official who twice, by accident or design, drowned out the protesters' speeches with routine announcements over the public address system.

Once the pitch was cleared, the stage was set for the real surprise, Notts County were second in the table; Fulham were seventh from bottom.

The first half had been a desultory affair, barely enlivened by two headed goals, Milton scoring for Fulham and Yates for County. But after the break, Mudge headed home Walker's corner, then Scott made three tackles to shoot past Cherry from a narrow angle to put Fulham 3-1 in front.

These events forced County to rethink their strategy, which is often employed away from home, of playing with five at the back. They brought on the substitutes, Law and Johnson, and were at once rewarded when the latter scored with a free kick.

Less than a minute later, Davies swung a left-foot shot from 18 yards past Cherry to restore Fulham's lead when Milton extended it, beating his man on the edge of the penalty area and wrong-footing the goalkeeper with this shot.

Rows climbed into third place by beating Bury 2-1. Yesterday, Brentford continued their rise by beating Luton Orient 1-0 with a goal two minutes from the end by Holdsworth. In the fourth division, the leaders, Carlisle, were lost to Peterborough while Exeter City moved into third place by beating Maidstone United 2-0.

FULHAM: J. Stannard, D. Bremner, M. Pley, A. Mudge, G. Neobing, J. Edwards, C. Davies, P. Smith, G. Barrett, C. Walker.

NOTTS COUNTY: S. Cherry, D. Norton, T. Potts, P. Robinson, M. Draper, P. Barnes, D. Lunt (sub: T. Johnson), P. Turner, G. O'Riordan.

Referee: J. Martin.

Beck's call for same approach

By Vince Wright

Bristol City 0
Cambridge United 0

Cambridge United, the only fourth division team left in the FA Cup, may have missed their last chance of reaching the last eight. Although they have home advantage in the fifth round replay on Wednesday, it is unlikely that Bristol City will play so poorly again.

John Beck, the Cambridge manager, warned: "This was a good performance by us but the job is only half done and we must approach Wednesday's match with the same professional attitude."

Vaughan, the Cambridge goalkeeper, was not seriously tested, whereas Stuchlik had severe anxious moments. John Taylor, who has scored in every round of this season's competition, would have given Cambridge a deserved victory with better finishing.

In the opening phase, Taylor could only strike the outside of a post from close range and a few minutes into the second half he slapped his thigh in annoyance after directing a header wide when unmarked.

Bob Taylor, City's top scorer, was restricted to one opportunity by a frustration began to creep into City's game, both their full backs were booked. Llewellyn for preventing Dublin from taking a throw-in, and Bailey for tugging at Leadbitter's shirt when the No. 8 had a clear run at goal.

A spectacular early foul by the offside committed Cambridge full back, Fessome, sparked off some ill feeling which the referee did well to curb, but not before Gavin and Kinsella had had a couple of off-the-ball digs at each other.

BRISTOL CITY: R. Sinclair, A. Llewellyn, J. Bailey, G. Shelton, G. Humphries, D. Taylor, G. Goss, R. Newman, R. Taylor, S. Turner.

CAMBRIDGE UNITED: J. Vaughan, A. Goss, A. Kinsella, G. Goss (sub: D. O'Shea), P. Chapple, L. Dashi, M. Chappell, C. Leadbitter, D. Dublin, J. Taylor, I. Philpot.

Referee: S. Lodge.

FA Cup

Fifth round

Blackpool (1) 2
Gateshead (1) 2

Newcastle (1) 3
Middlesbrough (1) 3

Sheff Utd (1) 2
Barnsley (1) 2

Bristol City (0)
Cambridge United (0)

Barclays League

First division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Second division

Blackburn (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Third division

Blackburn (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Fourth division

Blackburn (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

B and Q Scottish League

Premier division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Second division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Third division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Fourth division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

GM Vauxhall Conference

Premier division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Second division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Third division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Fourth division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Second division

Blackburn (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Third division

Blackburn (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Fourth division

Blackburn (1) 1
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B and Q Scottish League

Premier division

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GM Vauxhall Conference

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B and Q Scottish League

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GM Vauxhall Conference

Premier division

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Fourth division

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B and Q Scottish League

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GM Vauxhall Conference

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B and Q Scottish League

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Fourth division

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GM Vauxhall Conference

Premier division

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Sheff Wed (1) 1

Second division

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Third division

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Sheff Wed (1) 1

Fourth division

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Sheff Wed (1) 1

GM Vauxhall Conference

Premier division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Second division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Third division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Fourth division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

League of Ireland

Premier division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Second division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Third division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Fourth division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

League of Ireland

Premier division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Second division

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Third division

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Fourth division

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

WELSH SCHOOLS BARCLAYS DURHAM

Cardiff (1) 1
Sheff Wed (1) 1

Missing Macari's future in doubt at Upton Park

By Louise Taylor

Lou Macari is understood to have resigned as manager of West Ham United after six months in charge. He failed to attend the club's second division match at Swindon Town, his former club, yesterday and officials could not explain his absence.

After the match, a 2-2 draw, West Ham directors held a board meeting before addressing the players. Tom Finn, the club secretary, then told the Press: "There will be no statement tonight." An announcement is expected on Thursday.

Phil Parkes, the West Ham goalkeeper, said: "We do not know what is happening. It is all very confusing. All the players know is that we have not seen the manager today." Even Macari's wife said she "did not have a clue" as to what was happening and that her husband was away from home.

The meeting yesterday included two members of the Cerns family, who dominate the West Ham board. The chairman, Len Cerns, is unwell and was not present, but his son Martin and brother Will — the vice-chairman — attended.

Macari is believed to be angry at West Ham's refusal to support him in his appeal against a £1,000 fine imposed by the Football Association for his involvement in a betting scandal while manager of Swindon. The FA found him guilty of breaching its rules by virtue of his involvement in helping to place a bet on Swindon to lose an FA Cup match against Newcastle

Macari, a former Manchester United and Scotland forward, protests that he is innocent, even one penny is too much to pay," he said yesterday. He is also the subject of a Football League inquiry into allegations of illegal payments to players and officials during his time at Swindon.

Those questions aside, Macari has experienced a torrid time at Upton Park since his arrival as successor to John Lyall last summer. The young manager they recruited last summer had feet of clay did not take long to dawn in the minds of West Ham officials and supporters alike.

More football, page 38

Indifferent League form, an FA Cup exit at Torquay United, a 6-0 Littlewoods Cup defeat at Oldham Athletic and New Year's Eve frolics by his players at an Essex hotel in the manager's absence were compounded by reports that Macari was rarely present at West Ham's Chadwell Heath training ground.

Exacerbating all this was an FA fine imposed after the players were involved in a brawl on the pitch with Wimbledon during a Littlewoods Cup match.

As if that was not enough, Macari had public disputes with Paul Ince and Mark Ward, now at Manchester United and Manchester City respectively.

Frank McAvennie is still with the club, but only after

being fined for allegedly assaulting Brian Blower, the commercial manager.

It is a far cry from the meteoric start Macari made at Swindon, whom he steered from the fourth to the brink of the first division. He was a disciplinarian who took players to Army camps for training, banned alcohol and insisted on a strict dress code.

On the field, he adhered to the long ball philosophy. It may not have been pretty but it was highly effective.

He signed Martin Allen from Queen's Park Rangers for £650,000, Colin Foster from Nottingham Forest for £350,000, Jimmy Quinn, yesterday's goalscorer, from Bradford City for £320,000, and Ludek Mikosko, the Czechoslovak international goalkeeper, for £300,000. He also signed the Manchester City pair, Ian Bishop and Trevor Morley, in a £1 million deal when Mark Ward went to Maine Road.

All the indications at the County Ground yesterday suggested that Swindon would prefer to erase the memory of Macari. So stained is his reputation in Wiltshire that in yesterday's match programme he merited a one-line mention.

When the announcer read out the West Ham line-up he reminded the crowd that Macari was once their mentor. The response was met with a uniform chorus of boos only interrupted with chants in support of Osvaldo Ardiles, the present manager.



Leading the way: Paul Groves celebrates scoring Blackpool's opening goal yesterday

Blackpool keep a little of their old glory alive

By David Miller

Blackpool..... 2
Queen's Park Rangers..... 2

A puff of old pride blew in off the seafrost, bringing with it almost 10,000 spectators, over double the present average, to paint-peeling, dilapidated Bloomfield Road. Blackpool's team, caught in the relegation zone of the third division, inhaled some of that pride and justifiably took Queen's Park Rangers, the conquerors of Arsenal and unbeaten at home in the cup for 10 years, to a fifth-round replay on Wednesday.

It should be said that lapses by Rangers, especially by Seaman, an England understudy goalkeeper, on the first goal, after three minutes, assisted Blackpool's energetic and at times resourceful display; but most of all, here was a cup tie that keeps alive the fading traditions of a famous club. For much of the match, there was little to distinguish between first and third divisions.

It seems a shame that the Blackpool directors cannot even renew the cracked, plywood, tangerine-painted letters of the club's name on the rusting, corrugated south stand, for which I am sure Mrs Oyston could pay out of her housekeeping. Maybe in hard times it is difficult to prevent the stadium looking like an old garden shed, but dignity need not always be costly.

The Blackpool players had dignity enough, even with the last-minute withdrawal through injury of Elliott, so experienced after his years at Sunderland. They did sufficient, appearing in the fifth round for the first time in 30

years, to show Don Howe and his men that the replay cannot be taken for granted. The hardy local supporters repeatedly chanted "Are you watching, PNE?" certainly this lively kind of performance would pull Blackpool to safety in their struggle with Preston, Cardiff and Walsall.

In Eyres, on the left wing, Blackpool have a poor man's Alan Hinton, a splendid crosser of the ball, but lacking pace. It was from his centre, following Coughlin's free kick,

turned over the bar by McIlhenny, and from the corner that followed, Bardsley, the former Blackpool full back, sent a diving header less than a foot past the far post.

Blackpool recovered their steadiness, and Groves had a shot deflected for a corner, both he and Garner protesting in vain that a Rangers defender had handled the ball. The corner was cleared, play went straight to the other end and Clarke, cutting in on the right, slid the ball past McIlhenny to put Rangers in front.

Barely had Blackpool kicked off, then they were kicked again. Picking up the ball at the back of the penalty area, hemmed in by two defenders, Eyres swivelled and hit a low left foot shot which crept just inside the post. Seaman seemed slow to get down to it, though maybe his view was blocked until the ball was on its way.

Now Blackpool pressed for the winner, but they were lucky not to concede defeat when Sinton came in to meet a long cross from Bardsley on the right. Luckily for Blackpool, Wright, normally a left-back, but now switched to the right because of injuries, was there to smother the shot. He had, throughout, been the most sure defender, and we could see why both Kenny Dalglish and Howard Kendall — said to have been watching yesterday — have shown a keen interest in him.

After half-time, it seemed, for a while, that Rangers would assert their status, taking control of the middle of the field. Sinton, coming across the back of the penalty area, had a right foot shot

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Officials pour cold water on super league

By Roddy Forsyth

Although the latest suggestions of a European super league involving 16 leading clubs, including three from Britain, were dismissed by football's administrators at home and abroad yesterday, a substantial restructuring of the three European club competitions is imminent.

A plan devised by Silvio Berlusconi, the owner of AC Milan, in which Rangers, Arsenal and Liverpool would compete in four groups of four teams on six consecutive Wednesday evenings in November and December 1991, was published yesterday in a Scottish newspaper. The winners and runners-up in each of those groups would proceed to two further groups of four, playing in January and February 1992, with a final at Wembley on February 26.

However, the proposals, as reported by *Scotland on Sunday*, are not feasible on a number of counts, one of the most obvious being the fact that several of the dates suggested for fixtures have already been reserved for international qualifying matches in the European championship.

In addition, clubs which play in countries where football shuts down in mid-winter would be unable to fulfil home fixtures.

David Will, the chairman of Brechin City, who is also a vice-president of UEFA, said yesterday: "This latest story is the sort of thing I have heard every year for years. I have no knowledge of any renewal of this notion and the idea that it is backed by UEFA

is nonsense. UEFA is nowhere near considering anything like this, and the idea that these clubs could go it alone outside the present framework is, quite honestly, ridiculous."

Nevertheless, Will conceded that UEFA had already begun to examine the need to restructure the formats of the European Cup, the Cup Winners' Cup and the UEFA Cup, and that an ad-hoc committee, under the chairmanship of Antero da Silva, of Portugal, is considering proposals from each of the member associations.

"The committee is gathering evidence and I understand that the major clubs of the Scottish Football Association, for example, have met with the SFA, so that the Association could present its view to UEFA."

Jim Farry, who will shortly succeed Ernie Walker as the secretary of the SFA, confirmed that a meeting had already taken place with Rangers, Celtic, Aberdeen, Dundee United, Heart of Midlothian and Hibernian.

"An informal gathering was held in November, and the feeling is that there will be some restructuring of the European competitions, with the preference being for a sectional format, perhaps similar to that of the World Cup," Farry said.

One change which will certainly be implemented next season is an extension of the seeding system, which at present is applied only to the first round of the European competitions, and which will be enlarged to take in the second round.

Both English clubs deny approaches

By Peter Ball

English football yesterday reacted with incredulity and scorn to the idea of a super league to replace the UEFA Cup in the 1991-92 season. To several leading football administrators the plan bore all the hallmarks of a piece of speculation by Silvio Berlusconi, the television magnate and owner of A.C. Milan, the Italian and European club champions.

Liverpool, who were supposedly one of the two English clubs among the 16 who would take part, yesterday disclaimed any knowledge of the operation. "The first I heard about it was when somebody mentioned it on the golf course this morning," Sir John Smith, the club chairman, said. "I can assure you that we have had no discussions with anybody on this, not a word."

Ken Friar, the managing director of Arsenal, followed the same line. "This is obviously an idea that has been floated and presumably there is no smoke without fire but we have heard nothing from anyone," he said.

Spokesmen for the Football Association and Football League were also in the dark. "This is totally unofficial, it is another example of a group going off and doing their own thing without thinking it through," Bill Fox, the League president, said. "Berlusconi is a TV man first, not a football man, and you can see the interest behind it."

Suggestions for a European super league have a history, but they have gained added impetus recently with the approach of one market in 1992 and the development of European-wide satellite television

stations. Three months ago, Trevor Phillips, the League's commercial director, told *The Times* that a super league was inevitable in some form and it was time for the League to start preparing their response.

The Berlusconi proposal, however, is impracticable as both Fox and David Dent, the Football League Secretary, made clear in separate statements yesterday. Both insisted in particular that clubs could not be members of both the League and an autonomous European super league.

"The concept of a European super league running parallel with a domestic League championship is fundamentally flawed," said Dent. "It is naive to believe that the clubs who are excluded would tolerate being used as a stepping stone to an ultimate formation of an autonomous European competition."

Under the scheme even the teams who fall at the first hurdle would be guaranteed £3 million and Dent suggests that figures of between £12 and £15 million might be earned by competing clubs, giving them a totally disproportionate power to buy all the best players and make domestic competition a mockery.

"Because professional football is ultimately dependent upon the spectators' willingness to pay for the unpredictability of its theatre, the game has an overriding obligation to ensure that free enterprise is always balanced against fair competition," Dent said. "And whilst sport must always strive to reach new heights, this should be driven by genuine ambition and not unabated avarice."

Roses all the way as the shrunken violet blooms

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Newcastle United..... 2
Manchester United..... 2

Danny Wallace, the epitome of the unpredictability of Manchester United, guided his beleaguered club into the last eight of the FA Cup yesterday afternoon. He created two goals and scored the other in a dramatic televised fifth-round tie at St James' Park which fluctuated as wildly as his own performance.

Until he was removed from his natural position on the wing, Wallace offered only one notable contribution. From his corner, curled in on the gusting wind in the twentieth minute, Robins put United ahead with a glancing header.

For an hour Wallace,

bought for £1.2 million from Southampton, otherwise resembled a shrunken violet. Later he blossomed into the match-winner.

Initially, while the exposed Martin was being tormented by Brock and Ranson, United's left-hand door was allowed to swing open whenever an intruder pushed it. Anderson and McClair at least attempted to block the entrance on the right. It still buckled occasionally, as it did in the middle where Bruce, absent for three games because of suspension, was reunited with Pallister.

From midway through the first half until the interval, they were almost submerged by a constant wave of Newcastle attacks. They almost went under when Hughes, in intervening during a corner, first trod on the ball and seconds later headed it

out of the hands of his own goalkeeper.

Another indiscretion led directly to Newcastle's first equalizer. Bruce, confounded again by McGhee, brought him down inside the area in the fifteenth minute. The Scot, who once worked under Ferguson at Aberdeen, converted the penalty, provoking a small pitch invasion by supporters. Their celebrations were premature. Within 10 minutes, Wallace, who had been pushed forward to join Hughes up front, swivelled after controlling McClair's cross and, from an oblique angle, restored United's advantage. Again they could not hold on to it, although controversy surrounded Newcastle's second equalizer in the 65th minute.

Quinn, whether deliberately or not, appeared to balk at Leighton as he advanced to clear Brock's corner. After Scott had nodded into the unguarded net, United's goalkeeper ran to the halfway line to voice his protest to the referee. So, more vociferously, did Anderson, who was booked for dissent.

The significance of the incident was overshadowed a dozen minutes from the end. Ince, restored to fitness and belatedly to the team, made an immediate impact with a job which released Wallace. Unselfishly, he invited McClair to end his own barren sequence which had lasted since October and to lift the club clear of further anxiety.

NEWCASTLE UNITED: J. Burridge; R. Ranson; M. Simpson; P. Athan; K. Scott; D. Bruce; S. F. Brock; K. Quinn; M. Quinn; M. McGhee; P. Swannery (sub: G. Bruce).
MANCHESTER UNITED: J. Leighton; V. Anderson; L. Martin; S. Bruce; M. Pallister; M. Robins (sub: R. Berrandson); M. Donnelly (sub: P. Ince); B. McClair; M. Hughes; D. Wallace.
Referee: D. Vickars.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Tyson put on hold

James Douglas, the world heavyweight boxing champion, will meet Evander Holyfield, the top-ranked contender, later this year. A rematch with Mike Tyson, who lost the title to Douglas in Tokyo last week, has been put on hold until next year.

"Right now, we're planning for Holyfield in September," Douglas's manager, John Johnson, said yesterday. "It looks like Tyson will be next February." Johnson reached agreement with Holyfield's manager, Dan Duva, on Saturday, with the only details left to iron out being the date, venue and size of purse.

New role

Istanbul (AP) — Sepp Piontek, the West German who recently resigned as manager of the Danish national football squad after 11 years in charge, arrived here yesterday to sign a contract to takeover the Turkish national team.



Holyfield: next in line

Offer rejected

Ian Redpath, the former Essex batsman, has rejected an offer of a one-year contract with Derbyshire, opting instead to play in Australia.

New signing

David Watson, a member of the recent New Zealand rugby league touring team to Great Britain, is to sign a five-year contract with Hull Kingston Rovers, the second division promotion candidates.

Pyne victory

Martin Pyne won the Ferguson & Keene 22½-mile handriders cycling time trial near Colchester yesterday, beating Gary Baker, a professional rider with Ever-Ready Halfords, into second place. Pyne finished in 52min 59sec, with Baker, who led by 15 seconds after a couple of miles, coming in 1min 28sec behind.

New deal

Christian Raducanu, the Romanian rugby union forward granted political asylum while on tour with his national side in Scotland last December, has been invited to resume playing for his country.

Speed record

Chen Xinhua, the Yorkshire-based former World Cup table tennis winner from China, was yesterday given the man-of-the-match award for helping to bring about the fastest ever win recorded in the Leeds British League when his club, Ormesby, beat Armada 400 8-0 in Cleveland.

Carminati's 30 weeks ban

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Alain Carminati, who became the third Frenchman to be sent off during the course of a rugby union international when dismissed by Fred Howarth (England) at Murrayfield on Saturday, was suspended yesterday for 30 weeks. He is therefore ruled out of contention for France's close-season tour to Australia, and the rest of this season with Bezziers, his club, and France.

Carminati was sent off for stamping on the head of John Jeffrey, the Kelso flanker, nine minutes into the second half of the five nations championship match, which Scotland won 21-0. His case was heard at Edinburgh Airport yesterday by a five nations disciplinary tribunal consisting of Gordon Masson (Scotland), Francois Senegas (France) and Sir Ewart Bell, from Ireland, who chaired the hearing and was accompanied by Air Commodore Bob Weighill, the secretary of the five nations committee. Their findings were consistent with those of the January hearing into the dismissal of Kevin Moseley, the Pontypool lock sent off — also by Howard Howarth — for stamping during the Wales-Scotland game, Moseley was suspended for 32 weeks. Carminati will not be able to play until September 17.

Carminati, aged 23, follows his countrymen Jean-Pierre Garret and Alain Llorieux who were sent off against Ireland and Argentina respectively. The incident left Jeffrey with a torn left ear and lacerated chin though the Scot was able to complete the game and is expected to be fit to play against Wales on March 3, if selected in the XV to be announced on Wednesday.

France, with only one win to their credit this season, will wait until the weekend before

deciding their XV to play Ireland on March 3 in Paris. Wales will ponder the implications of their 34-6 defeat by England before announcing the team to play Scotland, which is due on Thursday, which may be delayed until the weekend.

There will be calls in Wales for the resignation of John Ryan, the coach. Since he replaced Tony Gray for the 1988-89 season he has enjoyed only one championship victory but whether any other individual would have done better at a time of considerable internal dissension is open to doubt.

At Ireland's training session yesterday's only Philip Matthews, who has a mild virus infection, did not participate, but he does not consider his place in jeopardy for the match against France in Paris on Saturday week (George Acc writes).

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